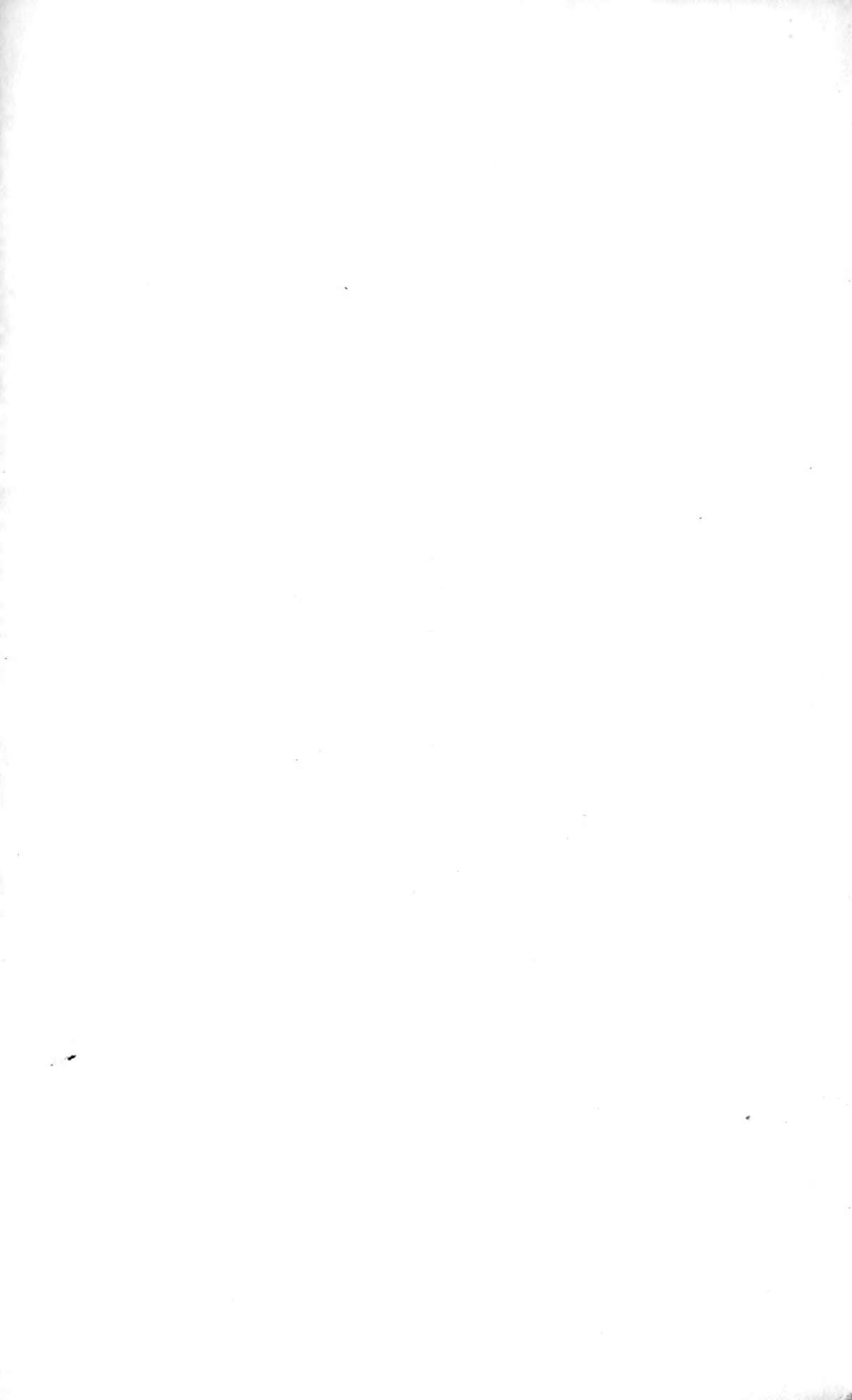


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ANNUAL
Burns Chronicle
AND
Club Directory.

(INSTITUTED 4TH SEPTEMBER, 1891.)

Edited by **D. McNAUGHT**, Kilmaurs.



No. VII.
January, 1898.

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P R E F A C E.

THE events of the Death Centenary having been dealt with in the special issue of last year, the present number has been compiled on the original plan of the *Chronicle*, which has been carried out in detail so far as the limited space at our disposal permitted. Though the "Notes and Queries" section—perhaps not the least interesting of former issues—has again been crowded out, we hope to make good the deficiency by devoting more space to it in future issues.

The Editorial staff has been much encouraged by the very enthusiastic meeting held at Greenock in June last. If the pledges then given by the delegates to support the *Chronicle* in their several localities are in any degree redeemed, the permanent success of the periodical will be fully assured.

To our contributors we again return our warmest thanks ; and in connection with our illustrations, we beg specially to acknowledge the valuable services of Mr. Thomas Ferguson, Nursery Mills, Kilmarnock, who, from the first, has taken the most lively interest in our labours.

We have also to congratulate the Federation on the very appreciative notices of the *Chronicle* which have appeared in the press.

D. M'NAUGHT.

BENRIG,

KILMAURS, 1st January, 1898.

Burns Obituary.

(Addenda and Corrections, supplementary to the 5th Issue of the Chronicle, published in 1896.)

[The Editor begs to tender his thanks to the numerous correspondents who have assisted him in drawing out this record. He specially acknowledges the valuable aid of Mr. W. Innes Addison, Matriculation Office, The University, Glasgow, who has spared neither time nor trouble in verifying the more questionable dates.]

A.

- Adam, Dr. Alexander, Edinburgh. Died 1809.
Albany, Duchess of. Died November 14, 1789.
Anderson, Dr. James, of "The Bee." Died October 15, 1808, aged 69.
Armstrong, John, Poet, Edinburgh. Died 1797, aged 26.

B.

- Bannatyne, Rev. George, Glasgow. Died 1769.
Barbault, Mrs., Poetess. Died 1825.
Benson, Miss (Mrs. Basil Montague). Died 1856, aged 83.
Beattie, Dr. James. Died August 18, 1803, aged 68.
Blair, Sir David Hunter. Died 1857.
Brodie of Brodie. Died January 17, 1824.
Bruce, Rev. John, Forfar. Died 1817.
Bruce, James, African Traveller. Died 1794.
Burnes, Robert, Writer, Stonehaven. Died 1816.
Burnes, Robert, Author of "Thrummie Cap." Died 1826.
Burness, Sir Alex., of Cabul fame. Died 1852.
Burnside, Rev. Dr. Wm., Dumfries. Died January 5, 1806, aged 55.
Burnside, Mrs. Dr. William. Died 1838, aged 79.

C.

- Campbell, Lord Frederick. Died 1816.
Campbell, Ilay, M.P. Died March 28, 1823, aged 89.
Campbell, Bruce. Died 1813, aged 79.
Cardonnel, Adam De. Died 1820.

Carlini, Italian Clown. Died 1783.
 Carleton, Sir Guy (Lord Dorchester). Died November 10, 1808, aged 84.
 Chalmers, Mr., Printer, Aberdeen. Died 1810.
 Charteris, Francis, of Amisfield. Died 1808.
 Christison, Alexander, High School, Edinburgh. Died 1820.
 Clinton, Lord. Died 1795.
 Cockburn, Mrs., of Fernilee. Died 1795.
 Crawford, Thomas, Cartsburn, Greenock. Died 1791.
 Cunninghame, Sir William, of Milncraig. Died 1828.

D.

Daer, Lord William Esail. Died March 5, 1794, aged 32.
 Doig, Mr., Schoolmaster, Devon Valley. Died March 16, 1800, aged 81.
 Don, Sir Alexander. Died April, 1826.
 Dowie, John, Edinburgh. Died 1817.
 Dumouriez, General. Died March 14, 1823, aged 84.
 Dunbar, William, W.S. Died 1807.
 Dundas, Right Hon. Henry. Died 1871.
 Dunlop, General, of Dunlop. Died June, 1828.
 Dunlop, Major Andrew. Died 1804.

F.

Falconer, Mr. (Author of "The Shipwreck"). Died *circa* 1770.
 Fergusson, Alexander, of Craigdarroch. Died 1796.
 Fergusson, Sir Adam (Deputy Keeper of Scottish Regalia). Died 1854.
 Franklin, Benjamin. Died 1790.
 Fraser, Thomas, Hautboy-Player, Edinburgh. Died 1825.

G.

Gage, General Thomas. Died 1787.
 Glencairn, John, 7th Earl of. Died September 24, 1796, aged 46.
 Gordon, Professor, Aberdeen. Died 1797.
 Gordon, of Kenmure. Died 1840.
 Gordon, Lord George. Died 1793.
 Grant, Rev. Alexander, Calder. Died 1828.
 Grose, Francis, F.S.A. Died May 18, 1791, aged 60, according to his tombstone in Drumcondra Churchyard. *The Scots Magazine* has it May 12.

H.

Hall, Sir James, of Dunglass. Died June 23, 1832, aged 71.
 Hamilton, John ("Wee Curly John"). Died in 1862.
 Hamilton, Wilhelmina (Mrs. Tod, Mauchline). Died 1858.
 Hamilton, Jacobina ("Little Beenie"). Died 1822.
 Hamilton, Rev. George, Gladsmuir. Died 1832.
 Hancock, President. Died 1793.
 Hay, Lewis. Died February 28, 1800.

Henderson, Captain Matthew. Died November 27, 1788.
 Heron, Rev. James, of Kirkgunzeon. Died 1801.
 Home, Anne (Mrs. Dr. John Hunter). Died 1821.
 Hopetoun, James, 3rd Earl of. Died 1817.
 Howe, General Sir William. Died 1814.
 Hurdis, Rev. James, Poet. Died 1801.

J.

Johnston, Sir James, of Westerhall. Died 1794.
 Johnstone, Sir William, of Pulteney. Died 1805.

L.

Loudoun, Flora, Countess of. Died 1840.
 Lowe, John, Poet. Died 1798.

M.

Maitland, Lord. Died September 13, 1839, aged 80.
 Marshall, William, Poet, Aberdeen. Died May 29, 1833, aged 85.
 Marshall, William, Author. Died 1818.
 Maxwell, Rev. George, Buittle. Died June 24, 1807, aged 45.
 Maxwell, James, Poet, Paisley. Died 1800.
 Meikle, Andrew, Mechanic, Dunse. Died 1811.
 Mitchell, Rev. Andrew, Aberlemno. Died 1794.
 Mitchelson, Samuel. Died June 21, 1788.
 Monro, Alexander, Professor, Edinburgh. Three generations. Father died July 10, 1767, aged 80; Son, died October 2, 1817, aged 84; Grandson, died March 10, 1859, aged 86.
 Montague, Lady Mary Wortley. Died 1762.
 Montgomerie, General Richard. Died December 31, 1775 (?).
 Moore, Dr. John, London. Died February 21, 1802, aged 73.
 Muir, Thomas, of Seditious fame. Died 1796.
 Murray, Sir William, of Ochtertyre (5th Bart.) Died 1800.
 Macleod, General Norman, of Dunvegan. Died 1801.
 M'Morine, Rev. William, Caerlaverock. Died Nov. 3, 1832, aged 77.
 M'Whinnie, Mr., Writer, Ayr. Died October 4, 1819.

N.

Neilson, Rev. Edward, Kirkbean. Died March 31, 1824.

O.

Osnaburg, Frederick of. Died 1827.
 O'Keefe, John, Dramatist. Died 1833.
 Oswald, Richard A., of Auchencruive. Died 1874.

P.

Palmer, Rev. Thomas Fyshe, of Seditious fame. Died 1802.
 Prentice, Archibald, of Covington Mains. Died 1857.

R.

- Riddel, Mrs. Robert. Died 1801.
 Rose, Hugh, of Kilravock. Died 1827.
 Rose, Mrs. (Widow of Hugh, 18th Laird). Died 1813.
 Ronald, Anne, Bennals. Died 1828, aged 61.

S.

- Sackville, George, Viscount. Died 1785.
 Schetki, J. G. C., Violinist, Edinburgh. Died 1824.
 Selkirk, 4th Earl of. Died May 24, 1799, aged 77.
 Sharpe, Charles Kilpatrick, of Hoddam. Died March 18, 1851, aged 70.
 Sheridan, Richard Brinsley. Died 1816.
 Shield, William, Composer. Died 1829.
 Simson, Patrick. Died 1848.
 Smeaton, Dr., Burgher Minister of Kilmaurs. Died *circa* 1788.
 Smith, James, of Mauchline. Died in St. Lucia, West Indies.
 Smith, Rev. Andrew, Dunse. Died 1789.
 Storace, Stephen, Dramatist. Died 1796.

T.

- Tennant, Mrs. Margaret ("Meg the Mither"). Died 1823.
 Tennant, Janet ("Sister Janet"). Died 1843.
 Tennant, Alexander ("Singin' Sannock"). Died August 11, 1841.
 Townshend, Hon. Charles, Taymouth. Died 1810.
 Thriepland, Sir Stuart. Died 1805.

U.

- Urbani, Petro, Musician, Edinburgh. Died 1816.

W.

- Washington, General. Died 1799.
 Whyte, James, Jamaica Planter. Died 1822, aged 90.

Y.

- Young, Rev. Walter, Erskine. Died August 6, 1814, aged 69.

THE EARNOCK MANUSCRIPTS.

NEW LIGHT ON CURRIE'S BIOGRAPHY.

ON 26th July, 1796, five days after the death of Burns, Dr. Currie, in a letter to John Syme, says—"I never saw this original genius but for a few minutes, in 1792, in the streets of Dumfries. In the little conversation I had with him, I could easily distinguish that bold, powerful, and ardent mind, which, in different circumstances, might have influenced the history of nations." And then he goes on to ask what Burns died of, the number of his family, and the circumstances in which they had been left. On 15th August of the same year he informed the same correspondent that he had yielded to the solicitations of Mrs. Dunlop and other friends of the deceased Poet and consented to write his biography, as well as supervise an edition of his collected works for the benefit of the widow and children. Dr. Currie's edition, as all the world knows, was issued in May, 1800, and was accepted by the public as an authoritative and impartial estimate of the genius and character of Burns. But it is perfectly clear that Dr. Currie had no personal knowledge of the Poet, and that he consequently had to proceed entirely upon hearsay evidence in dealing with the vague rumours and reports regarding the Poet's conduct during the closing years of his life. The value of the evidence of any great man's contemporaries depends, of course, upon the standing and qualifications of the witnesses put in evidence. Who, then, were Dr. Currie's informants? He himself tells us. On 8th February, 1797, he acknowledges receipt of "the remains of Poor Burns," in the shape of a huge mass of letters and manuscripts, including the complete sweepings of his desk and private repositories, unarranged and unexamined, and sent to Liverpool with all their sins upon their head. Confronted with this chaos,* the difficulty and magnitude of his task began to dawn upon him, and he wrote

* In estimating Dr. Currie's work, it must be kept in view that he had only copies of many of the letters before him, and not originals.

to Syme—"Your coming here is essential; and that you may understand how much so it is, I declare most solemnly that if you do not come I will write to G. Burns, and publish a manifesto abandoning the work. . . . When you come here, I have a bed and a private room for you. There I will set you to work, with pen and ink before you; and I will be with you as much as I can. . . . You shall be as retired and as abstemious as a hermit; and you shall rise with the sun, and go to bed as he goes down." In the autumn of 1797 Gilbert Burns and John Syme did go to Liverpool, and during the fortnight they remained there, we have it on the authority of his son, Dr. Currie obtained "most ample and interesting personal details, and much important assistance in the arrangement and elucidation of the numerous MSS." No biographer could have taken greater precautions than these to ensure the thoroughness and reliability of his information. Further, we have perused the record of Dr. Currie's negotiations with the publishers as well as with the representatives of Burns's family, and all through there is ample testimony to the conscientiousness and earnestness which he brought to bear in endeavouring to appear at his best in the great work he had set himself to perform. And the more consideration is due to him when it is remembered that his editorial labours were frequently interrupted by physical suffering and decaying health, and that what he did accomplish was not inspired by hope of fee or reward, unless, indeed, his consuming ambition to shine as a critic and man of taste be considered a sufficiently substantial inducement. As we have said, his work on Burns was most favourably received; but if any weight attaches to the opinion of such a competent judge as Charles Lamb, it does not appear to have met with unanimous approval in the literary circles of that era. Lamb, writing to Coleridge in the autumn of 1800, thus speaks of it:—"Have you seen the new edition of Burns—his posthumous works and letters? I have only been able to procure the first volume which contains his life—very confusedly and badly written, and interspersed with dull pathological and medical discussions. It is written by a Dr. Currie. Do you know the well-meaning doctor? Alas! *ne sutor ultra crepidam*." This criticism, though adverse, is at least good-humoured and charitable. If, in attempting a life of Burns, Dr. Currie was really the shoemaker who forsook his

last, it is but fair to say that he undertook the task with great unwillingness, that he performed it with laudable zeal and the best intentions, and that his principal motive was to make provision for the Poet's widow and children. For his strictures on the private side of the character of the Poet, those who presumably laid the facts before him must in the first place be held responsible, for there are no sufficient grounds for supposing that he approached his subject with a prejudiced mind. That these facts were, in some way or other, grossly exaggerated is put beyond a doubt by the later testimony of Mr. Findlater and Mr. Gray, as well as by the protest of Gilbert Burns after hearing what these gentlemen had to say. Dr. Currie erred in examining too circumscribed a field. He pinned his faith to John Syme and Gilbert Burns, from whose evidence he undoubtedly made erroneous deductions. What the latter has to say for himself will appear in what follows. After that, so far as the written record goes, Syme is the only witness left;* and the question then presents itself why Dr. Currie did not put himself into communication with such men as Mr. Findlater and Mr. Gray, whose evidence was denied to the world till Peterkin published it in 1815, ten years after the date of Dr. Currie's death. The publication of that evidence altered the complexion of affairs entirely, but the Currie view was not to be abandoned without a determined attempt, on the part of Mr. Roscoe, to vindicate the literary reputation of his deceased friend at the expense of the personal character of the dead Poet. In the memoir of his father, published by Mr. W. W. Currie in 1831, he complains that during his father's life not a whisper reached his ears which could convey the idea that by "exaggerated statements" or "unfounded misrepresentations" he had done any injustice to the memory of Burns, but that lately various admirers and biographers, including Gilbert Burns himself, had come before the public accusing him of these self-same exaggerations and misrepresentations. In the work referred to, he declines, however, to enter into any controversy. Through the kindness of Sir John Watson, Bart., of Earnock, we are

* There is not the slightest evidence in proof of what has been so often confidently asserted, viz., that between Dr. Maxwell (Burns's physician) and Dr. Currie a closer intimacy existed than appears in the formal reference to the former in Vol. I. of Currie's work.



Sir John Matson, Bart.
1896.

privileged to lay before our readers a series of letters bearing on the edition of Currie, edited by Gilbert Burns, and published by Cadell & Davies in 1820. These letters form the contents of one of three sumptuously-bound quarto volumes, in which are preserved hundreds of original documents of inestimable value to the explorer in the Currie and Cromek field of Burns literature, all of which have been generously placed at our disposal. The instalment which we print this year has been selected on account of the fresh light it throws upon the biography of Currie, and the difficulties with which Gilbert Burns had to contend in his abortive attempt to remove the unfavourable impressions which the "well-meaning doctor" had wittingly or unwittingly created. The documents are best left to tell their own tale, save where a few remarks may tend to emphasise their import and connection. It will be observed that they do not come in chronological order, the compiler apparently disregarding dates for the sake of continuity in the narrative. We adhere to his order.

CADELL & DAVIES TO GILBERT BURNS.

London, 18th August, 1815.

Dear Sir,—We have been, for a considerable time past, intending for ourselves the pleasure of writing to you, but a very serious indisposition has hitherto prevented us—at length, however, we feel ourselves equal to the exertion, and we trust to your experienced kindness for your excusing us breaking in upon you. The subject upon which we have been anxious to address you, is that of the works of your very distinguished brother : and our object is the obtaining your valuable co-operation and assistance in bringing forward a new and improved edition, in a way calculated to do justice to them in all respects. The necessity of bringing forward such an edition, sanctioned by your name as Editor, becomes more and more evident, day after day, and the warmest friends of your brother's memory will be delighted to find his admirable productions sustained and cherished by your brotherly care. In what particular way you shall extend your assistance to us on this interesting occasion, your own good judgment will direct you much better than any suggestions of ours, and we shall be most happy in showing a due sense of the obligation in whatever manner we think most likely to be most acceptable to you.—We are, etc.,

CADELL & DAVIES.

W. WALLACE CURRIE TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Liverpool, 8th February, 1808.

Sirs,— We have Mr. Cromek here now ; he tells me he has been very successful in his last journey to Scotland. The

few papers of Burns that remain in my possession, Mr. Roscoe and myself have looked over, and he was to talk to Mr. C. about them yesterday at Allerton. I think my father took all that was good. I know he told me a little time before his death that I might as well burn the whole, which, however, I never did—Yours, etc.,

W. W. C.

GILBERT BURNS TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Grant's Braes, near Haddington,
8th September, 1815.

Gentlemen,—I received your letter of the 18th August which I would have answered sooner but for the hurry of the season and much distress in my family, having lost one daughter lately and another not likely to live many weeks. I should be very willing to co-operate with you in a new and selected edition of my brother's works, but must premise to you that in August last year I was applied to by a Mr. Peterkin, then of Edinburgh, who informed me he had engaged with some Edinburgh booksellers who were preparing a reprint of Dr. Currie's edition of my brother's life and writings (then considered public property from the lapse of the years protected by the Statute), that he was to furnish some prefatory matter in which he was to endeavour to remove some misrepresentations of my brother's character, and requesting my assistance for that purpose. I pointed out to him where he might apply for facts, and wrote him a short letter, which, I understand, appears in the introduction of that edition, published, I believe, by Messrs. M'Reddie, Mackersie, Skelly, & Co. If upon the perusal of Mr. Peterkin's work you should consider the appearance of my name there no hindrance to the advantage you would expect from my appearing editor of a new edition by you, I will very willingly enter farther with you in explanation of the work I should have to do. I must, however, inform you that I cannot appear as editor of any edition of my brother's works which is not selected by my direction, and, as an instance of what I mean, I consider that probably not above the half of the unlucky gleanings by Mr. Cromek would be thought fit for publishing. I shall never cease to blame myself for allowing him to go on with his plunder, and it is the only part of your conduct, I think, I have reason to be dissatisfied with, that you published the rapacious unworthy collection without submitting it previously for my consideration, as you know had been particularly specified in respect to any publication of new matter, you should think of making under the right conveyed to you. I do not know what *improvements* you would attempt in a new edition. I do not think any new matter of the author's could be added to what you have already published, nor would my habits and avocations allow my writing much. I think the only thing I could do to give value to the edition, after writing some advertisements to be prefixed, explanatory of my motives for bringing forth the edition, would be by writing some explanatory notes to the life and correspondence which might give some additional interest to them. If this meets your views, or if anything else occurs to you which may be practicable for me, I shall be very glad to hear from you, and you

may say what you think such co-operation on my part might be worth, as I have a sacred purpose to which I wish to apply anything which might accrue from it, which I may afterwards explain to you, and which will require the utmost which can be afforded.—I am, etc.,

GILBERT BURNS.

The “sacred purpose” Gilbert here refers to was the repayment of the sum of £180 lent him by the Poet, out of the proceeds of the Edinburgh Edition, for the purpose of carrying on the farm of Mossgiel. The letter containing the exact terms of Gilbert’s agreement with Cadell & Davies is unfortunately wanting, but from other sources we learn that he valued his services at £500 for two editions. The work, however, fell flat, and never got beyond the first edition, for which Gilbert received £250.

W. WALLACE CURRIE TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Liverpool, 27th July, 1806.

Dear Sirs,—I sometime ago received a letter from you announcing your intention of publishing a new edition of my father’s life of Burns, and asking whether amongst his papers there yet remained any poems or other articles which might be inserted. Mr. Roscoe and myself both looked carefully through all the papers of Burns, but could find nothing, and this he told you, I believe. We neither of us ever heard my father mentioning anything as remaining to be given to the world. I write now to beg you will tell me how soon you expect the work to be out, and to beg that you will, in compliance with the wish I expressed to Mr. Davies in London, send me down the final proofs for inspection before they are struck off. The numerous errors in the last edition of the *Medical Reports* render this necessary, I think. Several errors have met my eye in that work, and I have noted them, so that you will please to tell me whenever a new edition will be wanted. . . .—I am, etc.,

W. WALLACE CURRIE.

CADELL & DAVIES TO GILBERT BURNS.

24th October, 1815.

Dear Sir,—We are very sorry that various circumstances have concurred to prevent our earlier replying to your obliging and satisfactory letter, for which we now beg you to accept our best thanks.

As we have already intimated, it ever has been, and still is farthest from our wish or intention, to add anything to the edition of your brother’s works that has not the full and entire approbation of those of his friends who are most solicitous about his fame; and we are therefore the more anxious in our assurances to you that Mr. Cromek on every occasion induced us to believe that all the pieces inserted in his volume of *Reliques* had been

previously submitted to and approved by you. Our present application to you, dear sir, is an additional proof of our earnest desire to protect your brother's reputation, and it is most gratifying to us to find you disposed to meet our wishes, and to come forward as editor. We cannot, for a moment, feel that what you were induced to do, in attention to Mr. Peterkin's application, should be permitted to influence you in the smallest degree upon the present occasion.

We now beg the favour of your framing and sending us such a form of advertisement as we may in due time insert in the newspapers; descriptive of what you propose doing as editor; and inviting, if you see no objection, communications from such of your brother's correspondents and friends as may still possess unpublished letters or other papers.

We further beg you to state to us freely, the amount of the remuneration that you wish to receive; and it shall be our study to meet that wish as nearly as possible.

CADELL & DAVIES TO MR. GILBERT BURNS.

London, 5th February, 1816.

Dear Sir,—We had the pleasure of receiving your letter of the 19th ult., and think the form of advertisement which you have been so kind as send to us, will answer the desired purpose extremely well, any little alteration which may strike us as advantageous we will introduce, conformably to your permission. The terms which you propose as an adequate remuneration for the pains which you intend to take on the due illustration of your brother's works are certainly a good deal higher than we calculated; yet, as the handsomeness of their amount naturally marks how much you feel it will be in your power to do for us, and, as we really feel a strong desire to meet your utmost wishes, we at once consider the matter as settled, and beg you to transmit to us, from time to time, such new matter as you propose introducing, together with clear instructions respecting them, so as to enable us to be gradually preparing the new edition, at your earliest convenience. But, of course, when we say this, it is very far from our wish that you should not give yourself ample time for doing all you are anxious to do.

As we think it probable that those papers of your brother which still remain at Liverpool may be best forwarded to you by their being first sent to us and then forwarded to Edinburgh, we will write Mr. Currie by this day's post, and propose that mode of transmitting them. We have great pleasure in subscribing ourselves, dear Sir, very sincerely yours,

CADELL & DAVIES.

GILBERT BURNS TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Grant's Braes, 20th February, 1816.

Gentlemen,—I received yours of the 5th, and feel quite overpowered by the very handsome manner in which you have agreed to terms, which I could scarcely muster impudence enough to name, and which has placed me in a situation of extreme anxiety lest I should fall short of what you

have a right to expect ; but I beg you will always bear in mind that I did not promise much, and that you will be assured that I will do the best I can "to your great bidding task, Ariel and all his qualities." I trouble you at present to state the outline of what I propose, with the mode of arrangement which appears to me most suitable. I think it injurious to a Man of Genius to publish too much of his careless effusions in his private correspondence, and that we have too much even of the amiable Cowper brought forward in that way. It is therefore my wish to omit publishing a number of letters to my brother which Dr. Currie has published, the room they occupy in the volume of correspondence to be filled up with some of the most suitable of the letters collected by Mr. Cromek, or any unpublished letters we may get to suit our purpose ; introduced according to their dates, or as they may best illustrate the Poet's progress through life. Of course, you will see that I only contemplate publishing four volumes ; if, however, you would think it much more for your interest to have five, state your views freely to me, and I will bend my judgment to that as far as I can. The notes I intend to write should, I think, be placed at the end of each volume respectively. The first, and by much the longest, note (if I can at all please myself in it) which I propose to write will be on the subject of the peculiar character of the Scots peasantry, and referred to by Dr. Currie's preliminary remarks on that subject. This I consider the most difficult part of my task, but feel extremely anxious that it should be done with some effect, and as this occurs very early in the first volume your preparation for publishing cannot go on till I have finished that note ; but after that is got over, I hope I shall be able to keep out of the way of my good friend Mr. M'Creery, who, I am glad to see, is your printer. Another note of some length which will attach to the first volume will be to correct the too strong statement Dr. Currie has given of the irregularities of the latter part of my brother's life, but only a small part of that note will be written by myself. I have applied to the gentlemen Mr. Peterkin, by my advice, applied to for leave to publish the same documents Mr. Peterkin has published in his supplement, or that they will write me similar letters. Any other notes I shall write to be attached to the first volume will probably be very short. I take it for granted that any prefatory matter I may wish to write can be prefixed to the first volume after the whole is completed. I wish, likewise, to write a pretty long note on the subject of the ridicule my brother has thrown on some high professors of religion, which has given, and perhaps justly, some offence. These are three leading notes which I have set my mind on ; but I intend reading carefully over everything to be published, and wherever it occurs to me that I can illustrate or add anything to the interest of what my brother has written I will add it, though you will agree with me that this must be done with caution, as nothing is more injurious to a publication than to show a disposition to add to the bulk of it without increasing its interest or use. I beg you will write me freely what you think of the mode of proceeding I have proposed, or if you think any other way of disposing of the notes more suitable. When you write to me by post, please direct to me at Grant's Braes, Haddington ; anything you may have occasion to send by sea or by way of Edinburgh, to 16 Parliament Square, Edinburgh. I have

not written to M'Creery, as I presumed he would send the papers on your requisition, but if it is necessary I should write let me know.—I am, etc.,
GILBERT BURNS.

GILBERT BURNS TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Grant's Braes, 26th November, 1816.

Gentlemen,—So long ago as 20th February last, I wrote to you, giving an outline of what I proposed in regard to the intended new and improved edition of my brother's works. For some time I expected to hear from you how far you thought the plan I proposed would answer the purposes of trade, as well as the transmission of the paper from Liverpool. Neither of these, however, having arrived, I proceeded to prepare some additional remarks on the peculiar character of the Scottish peasantry, which I have, after much interruption and delay, finished, and enclose a fair copy for your perusal or publication. Instead of placing them at the end of the volume, as I originally intended, I now think they will, with more propriety, follow Dr. Currie's prefatory remarks, and they are written with that view. At page 72 of volume 1st, Doctor Currie has altered (intending to improve) the words of a passage in my letter to Mrs. Dunlop, as follows—"And there was often a great dissimilitude between his fair captivator, as she appeared to others, and as she seemed when invested with the attributes he gave her." My words were—"And there was often a great disparity between his fair captivator and her attributes," which I wish replaced instead of the worthy Doctor's emendation. The foot-note on pages 81 and 82, in which I gave the Doctor an account of my brother's early companions (not intended by me for publication), I wish to be suppressed. A foot-note may be added to page 95, where Mr. Murdoch mentions Dr. Tennant as being then in the East Indies.* No other addition or alteration appears to me necessary in the first volume till page 192, before printing off which you must allow me time to resume my labours, which will now unavoidably be suspended, from a pressure of business, towards the end of the year. Early in the spring, however, I hope to be able to finish what I consider necessary for completing the first volume, though I perceive I shall have more to write than I at first intended. In the nearer contemplation of the publication I feel that I should be able to perform my duty as editor much more to my own satisfaction if the work were to be printed in Edinburgh, where I could receive the proof-sheets every day by the coach and return them next morning. Mr. James Ballantine, with whom I have a little acquaintance, is a very correct and elegant printer, and a person of considerable literary taste. If you can find it nearly as much for your interest to employ him, as to print in London, I think I should be able to make the edition much more what I should like to bring before the public, than if printed in London. I request you will write me on receipt of this and let me know if my letter of the 20th February last ever reached you, and what is become of the Liverpool papers.—I remain, etc.,

GILBERT BURNS.

*Since known to the world as the author of *Hindoo Recreations*, and other works, but dead some time ago.—G.B.

CADELL & DAVIES TO MR. GILBERT BURNS.

London, 14th December, 1816.

Dear Sir,—We had very great pleasure in receiving, a short time since, your letter of 26th November, containing some corrections which you wish to be made in the new edition of your brother's works, together with some additional remarks from your own pen, on the peculiar character of the Scottish peasantry, all of which are very gratifying proofs of your earnestly availing yourself of such intervals of leisure as you can command from other occupations, to enrich the volumes in the way you had allowed us to hope.

We have also to acknowledge the safe and due receipt of your former letter of the 20th February; though, trusting that you would consider our silence as implying a complete approval of its contents, we have so long delayed replying to it from time to time. We did not, however, omit writing to our friend at Liverpool, for a return of the papers which still remain there, according to your desire; and we are persuaded that we must attribute the appearance of inattention which that application has hitherto met with to the commercial embarrassments which both Mr. Roscoe and Mr. W. Currie have lately had to encounter. Those embarrassments are now happily overcome, and we do not doubt that a renewal of our request, which we will soon make to them, will cause the papers to be sent up to us very shortly, when we will forward them to you without delay.

With regard to the printing of the new edition, we have many reasons for preferring this to be done in London, and we are also satisfied that this can be accomplished with quite as much satisfaction and convenience to you as if it were done in any other place. You will, of course, have the corrected copy for the printer made as complete as possible before the printing is at all begun upon, which is ever found to be the safest and pleasantest plan, as long and great experience has shown us that whatever alterations and corrections, beyond mere verbal ones, are delayed till after the printing is in progress, are attended with infinite vexation, inconvenience, and expense. The proof-sheet shall regularly be transmitted to you, at our cost, in a way that you will point out; and, should you find it desirable to introduce any short corrections (such, we trust, as will not require the alteration of the further pages already composed at the time) it can be marked on the proof.

Without wishing to urge you to a dispatch that may be inconvenient to you, we will now merely observe that we will be quite ready to set the printer to work as soon as you can forward to us two or three of the volumes, in all respects, prepared in the way you wish; and the remainder of the work may be got ready whilst the volumes first sent are printing. Yet we confess that it would be much more satisfactory to us to receive all the volumes together, if that can be accomplished with equal ease and convenience to you, for the reasons we have already assigned. A handsome paper for the new edition is secured. Mr. Wordsworth has thought fit to send forth a printed letter, reflecting in terms we cannot approve, upon our late excellent friend Dr. Currie's edition of your brother's

writings, to which, as we must ever feel that it is not justified to any sufficient degree, we trust you will not find it necessary to pay much attention; on any minor points, respecting which your brotherly feelings may be somewhat at variance with Dr. Currie's remarks, you will doubtless be able to express yourself to your own entire satisfaction, without too severely questioning the justice which that benevolent and elegant critic may have thought due to biographical truth. We shall have great pleasure in hearing from you at all times, and we beg you to believe us, dear Sir, very faithfully yours,

CADELL & DAVIES.

The letter here referred to is the celebrated composition of the Poet Wordsworth, addressed to Mr. Gray, and intended for Gilbert's edition, but published in pamphlet form in 1816.

MR. ROSCOE TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Dear Sirs,—A short time after Mr. Cromek had begun to print his volume of Burns, the proofs of the first sheets were sent to me, when I was equally surprised and sorry to see that the work opened with some poems, of the admission of which I very much doubt, but which in that situation would have given a most unfavourable idea of the work. I immediately wrote to Mr. Cromek, entreating him to stop the press till we had settled this point, as well as some others which I had to remark to him. In consequence of this he got into the mail and came to Allerton, where we have gone over the whole work, and I am sorry to say that, in my opinion, the seven sheets now printed must be cancelled, and the work begun again, although it will undoubtedly be attended with very considerable expense. This mistake has arisen from a misapprehension; it having been settled by Mr. Cromek and me, when he was last here, that the letters should be printed in chronological order, and which I supposed would be done; but Mr. Cromek having these poems of earlier date, thought it would be proper to begin the book with them, and, unluckily, sent them to press before I knew of it.

I am particularly anxious on this subject, as I consider it a matter of great importance, not only to the character of the Poet, but to the credit and interest of those concerned in the publication. Should anything be admitted, which may give just ground for censure, it will immediately be laid hold of, and the book will be condemned as containing only worthless and indecent fragments, which both he and Dr. Currie had rejected; and not only would this affect the sale of the work, but it would also injure the character of Burns, and perhaps depreciate in a considerable degree his other writings, for the property of which you have so liberally paid. In avoiding any imputation of this kind, the credit and interest of the author, the editor, and the publishers, all unite; and I am truly happy to say that, in my judgment, there is no danger in it whatever, if prudent precautions be taken, which Mr. Cromek is not only willing but anxious to do. The materials are in fact excellent, and the more I examine them, the more I am convinced they will make a most interesting volume. Everything is

now arranged for its being immediately put to the press, and the only circumstance to be regretted is the loss of time, and of the expense already incurred. This, Mr. Cromek is sensible, has been occasioned by his unfortunate misapprehension of my recommendation to him, but so anxious is he for the credit of the author, and the success of the work, that he will bear the loss himself rather than suffer the present sheets to appear. At the same time, he hopes that the exertions he has made will induce you to consider this matter in as favourable a light to him as you can, and, if the work should succeed, you will not suffer this unexpected loss to fall entirely on himself. This much, at his request, I promised to state to you, being well satisfied you will judge rightly upon it. I have only to add that I have undertaken to arrange the material for the preface, and shall have great pleasure in attending to the progress of the printing as far as my distance will allow, or rendering any other service which you or Mr. Cromek may wish. . . .—Yours, etc.,

W. ROSCOE.

This solicitude concerning *Cromek's Reliques* on the part of Mr. Roscoe was because that volume was intended by the publishers as a supplement to the Currie edition. In point of fact, it formed the fifth volume of the later editions of that work. Mr. Cromek complains bitterly of the interference of Robert Ainslie when engaged in selecting his material. It will be observed that the Currie influence also pervades it.

JAMES GRAY TO W. ROSCOE.

Edinburgh, 28th September, 1817.

Sir,—Having been desired by my friend, Mr. Gilbert Burns, to furnish him with any notices of the habits of the latter years of his brother's life that were in my possession, I have written him a letter on the subject, to be inserted in the new edition now going forward, and which, before publication, I beg leave to submit to you for your examination and opinion. Many reasons point you out as the fittest person in this country to be consulted in such a case, but none more than the interest you have always taken in the fame of the Poet. What I have written has been from my own observations, and whether my efforts shall be successful or not in clearing away the moral darkness with which his reputation has been obscured, I shall at least have the consolation that I have done my utmost to restore to him that good name of which he has been so cruelly and, in my opinion, so unjustly robbed. For twenty years I have heard calumny added to calumny, and in a number of periodical works, some of them of great authority, have seen pictures drawn, in which I should never have recognised Robert Burns. I have conversed on the subject with many of his most intimate friends, and am happy to say that their opinions coincide with mine. I have been necessarily led to censure one or two passages in Dr. Currie's valuable and ingenious work, as I consider them the source and the authority of the numerous anonymous slanders

and misrepresentations that have since appeared, but if you think that my criticisms can be in any way softened so as to retain the fact, I shall be obliged to you for making such alterations as you may deem necessary. You will oblige me by offering my most respectful compliments to your son, Mr. William Roscoe, whom I had the pleasure of seeing in Edinburgh last summer.—I am, etc.,

JAMES GRAY.

GILBERT BURNS TO MR. ROSCOE.

Grant's Braes, 5th October, 1817.

Dear Sir,—Having agreed to appear as editor of a new edition of my brother's poetry and correspondence, with Dr. Currie's account of his life, I have felt it incumbent on me to offer some qualification of the account given by the Doctor of the intemperance of my brother's latter years. As this is a matter of great delicacy, I beg leave to submit what I have written for this purpose to your inspection before sending it to the publisher. Mr. Gray proposed, of his own accord, to submit what he had written to you, with which I was well pleased. The warmth of Mr. Gray's temperament, and his partiality for my brother, has led him to write a longer letter, and to attempt more complete extenuation than I wished; but as it is written at my request, and to oblige me, I do not see that I can, with propriety, propose much alteration of what he has written, but you may comment on what he has written with more freedom, and he will listen with much deference to any remark of yours. The paragraph of his letter, in which he has gone out of his way to compliment his friend Mr. Wordsworth, I certainly cannot publish, and I feel that we have enough to answer for without identifying ourselves with that gentleman, whose appearance in this business has given me much pain; but should rather that Mr. Gray would withdraw it in consequence of a remark from you, than that I should be obliged, positively, to decline what he has written for publication. I beg you will forgive the freedom I take in thus troubling you in this matter, and that when you have perused the manuscript (which is intended as an appendix to the life, etc.), that you will return it with such remarks on it as you may favour Mr. Gray and me with, directed to me, No. 16 Parliament Square, Edinburgh, under cover to William Kerr, Esq., Secretary to the Post Office, Edinburgh.—I remain, etc.,

GILBERT BURNS.

MR. ROSCOE TO JAMES GRAY.

Liverpool, 30th October, 1817.

Sir,—I must beg you to accept my best acknowledgments for the honour you have done me in transmitting, for my perusal, your letter to Mr. Gilbert Burns, respecting the moral character and conduct of his highly celebrated brother—a letter which I have read with peculiar interest and, in some respects, with sincere pleasure; although there are some opinions to which I cannot wholly assent. I shall not, however,

avail myself of the liberty you have given me to suggest any alterations, for reasons which I have assigned in my letter to Mr. Gilbert Burns, and which he will probably communicate to you. At the same time, I am fully aware that the considerations I have submitted to him, as to the publication of the part of the narrative he has transmitted to me, do not apply in an equal degree to the letters of Mr. Findlater and yourself, who, having taken no part in Dr. Currie's edition, may, without any appearance of inconsistency, lay your statements and opinions before the public. Still, however, I must be allowed to express my regret that they were not brought forward, if not on the first publication of the general edition of the works of Burns, when they seem to have been more peculiarly called for, at least during the life-time of his biographer, who, whatever his final opinion might have been as to the subject, would, I am sure, have given them that respectful consideration to which, on many accounts, they are so fully entitled. My son, William, desires me to return his kind acknowledgments for your obliging remembrance of him, and I have the honour to be, etc.,

W. ROSCOE.

That the opinions of Mr. Findlater and Mr. Gray did not receive the "respectful consideration" of Dr. Currie is certainly matter for "regret," but not in the sense conveyed by Mr. Roscoe.

MR. ROSCOE TO GILBERT BURNS.

Dear Sir,—I have to acknowledge, much later than I intended, the letters from you and Mr. Gray, accompanying the latter part of your new memoir of your late celebrated brother, now intended for publication; and beg you to accept my thanks for the honour you have done me in submitting it to my perusal. You will, however, I trust, readily believe me when I assure you that I scarcely know any literary subject, the discussion of which could have given me greater anxiety—an anxiety increased by the consciousness that any interference of mine can be of so little avail. The great admiration which I have invariably felt for the works and character of the Poet, the habits of affectionate intimacy which I enjoyed during a great part of my life with his truly benevolent and enlightened biographer, and the very sincere respect and esteem which I have always entertained for yourself—these feelings, which I have experienced for so many years, and which so naturally harmonise with each other, seem, by the papers now before me, to be placed in a painful kind of opposition. I might, therefore, wish to stand excused from entering on a subject which is already before the public, and upon which such an unaccountable degree of warmth has been manifested; but this also I find, for many reasons, to be impossible. I shall, therefore, freely express what has occurred to me on the perusal of the papers, and shall trust to the candour of Mr. Gray and yourself to reconcile what I have to say with the feelings I have before expressed.

If ever there was a biographical work which was received by the public as an impartial account of the character intended to be represented,

it was Dr. Currie's life of Burns. Not only were the powerful talents and high endowments of the Poet placed in their most prominent light, but the blemishes, which it was foreseen by many would be attached to his character, were anticipated and explained in a manner consistent with the most affectionate delicacy, and, at the same time, with the most perfect truth. As far as any disapprobation was manifested, it was, I believe, from those who conceived that the account was drawn up in a manner too favourable to the moral character of the Bard. The manly and impartial strain of sentiment observable throughout the whole work, reject equally the censures of those who would invidiously condemn, as those who would unjustly exalt the Poet, and the public at large have been satisfied that the life of Burns was a monument not unworthy of his exalted genius. For upwards of 17 years this work has been before the public without any attempt, till very lately, on the part of those who now appear to differ from the Biographer, to rectify what they conceived to be his mis-statements. In the meantime, the character of the Poet has, as must naturally be expected, from his great celebrity, often been the subject of observation and criticism, but if they were thought of sufficient importance to require a specific reply, I cannot but deeply regret that it should have been supposed that this defence could not be entered upon without recurring so far back as to the narrative of Dr. Currie, and that it should be considered by Mr. Gray in his letter to me "*as the source and the authority of the numerous anonymous slanders and mis-representations that have since appeared,*" and by yourself "*as the basis on which other biographers and reviewers have raised the most revolting calumnies and misrepresentations against the character of the Bard.*" It seems indeed peculiarly hard that he, who had no motive for his laborious and benevolent undertaking but his high admiration of Burns's character and genius, and who stood forward as the vindicator of his fame, and the benefactor of his distressed family, when all his friends and relations shrunk from the task, should now be selected as the person who has stabbed his character and injured his memory to future times.

In making these remarks I am well aware that it is far from the intention of Mr. Gray or yourself to charge my late lamented friend with any wilful misrepresentations of the character of the bard, and that you have always mentioned him in the most respectful terms, but permit me to observe that even a charge of mis-statement and error cannot be brought against Dr. Currie without recoiling on those relations and friends of the poet who furnished the Dr. with his information, were consulted in almost every stage of its progress, and finally approved of the work. It was on this occasion that I had the pleasure of making an acquaintance with yourself and Mr. Syme in Liverpool, which place you visited for the express purpose of communicating with Dr. Currie on this subject, and when you must have been witness, not only to his indefatigable attention to the object in view, but to the candour of his mind, and above all, to his warmest desire of doing justice to the character of the man he so greatly admired. From this source, surely no injurious talent was to be expected, and on this Dr. Currie implicitly relied. Whether he might at that time have stated to you his precise idea as to the conduct of Burns with respect

to his convivial habits, I cannot say, but as you have permitted me to peruse this part of your narrative, it would be unpardonable in me to omit to mention to you that Mr. Wallace Currie is in possession of letters from you to his late father, in which you have in the most express and the most grateful terms, given your approbation of the Doctor's work, without the slightest notice that it contained any misrepresentation or error with respect to the moral qualities or conduct of your brother. On this account, it was with equal surprise and regret that I saw in Mr. Peterkin's edition of the works of Burns, a letter from you to the editor, in which you state that "*Dr. Currie, knowing the events of the latter years of your brother's life only from the reports which had been propagated, had given a very exaggerated view of his failings at that period,*" and the same sentiments are repeated in substance, in the narrative now sent for my perusal. How far this can be reconciled with the circumstances I have stated, or with your own expressions in your letters to Dr. Currie I will leave you to judge. In one of these, dated 8th April, 1800, and prior to the publication of the Doctor's work, it appears he had consulted you by letter as to the proposed preface of dedication of which you there give your opinion, and in another, dated 24th August, 1800, you say—"I have read over the life and correspondence of my brother again and again, and am astonished to find so little to object to, on the contrary, I could not have supposed that the materials you were possessed of could have furnished so respectable a work. The life, if I am not misled by my connection with the subject, is a singularly pleasing and interesting work." You then proceed to notice some slight errors, and afterwards add—"I have nothing original of my brother's but what you have seen, nor have I any alterations to propose. I am perfectly satisfied with your use of my communications, which, in several instances, are improved by your alterations. Indeed, I am perfectly satisfied and highly delighted with the whole of your work and arrangement." Neither in this, nor in any other of your letters to Dr. Currie, is there the least intimation that he had formed his conception of your brother's conduct upon vague reports, or had given an exaggerated view of his failings.

Be assured that, whatever my motives may be for making these statements, there is none that I feel more strongly than the wish that you should come before the public, in your intended work, in a manner worthy of yourself and your brother. Whether, after what I have said, you think this can be done in the way now proposed, I leave you to judge. I observe that in your letter to Mr. Peterkin you state that "*as the Doctor's work was not submitted to you in manuscript, nor, as far as you know, to any of your brother's friends in Dumfries, you had it not in your power to set him right in that particular (his exaggerated view of your brother's failings), and that considering the excellence of the Doctor's work upon the whole, and how much you owed him for that stupendous exertion of his benevolence, you never took any notice to him of your disapprobation or of the inconsistency of this part of his work.*" You were convinced in your own mind that he had greatly mistaken and deeply injured the moral character of your brother? Or if it was painful to you to hurt the feelings of Dr. Currie by informing him of his mistakes in his lifetime, when he might have

corrected them, is it allowable to impute them to him now, when he is no more? If any contradiction or extenuating circumstances had been stated to Dr. Currie, either by yourself or from any other quarter, no one could have been more earnest than he to do justice to the injured Bard; and if he could have seen the letters of Mr. Findlater and Mr. Gray he would have given them that impartial and candid consideration which they so justly merit. If, therefore, the errors of Dr. Currie's narrative have remained uncontradicted for so many years through all the editions of the works of Burns, it must be attributed to those who, although apprised of their injustice as fully on the first publication on the life as at present, have suffered the blot to remain upon his character till other circumstances seem to have elicited the long-protracted refutation. I hope it will not be conceived that I am so devoted to the memory and reputation of my late excellent friend as to conceive that his work should be regarded as infallible, or should preclude any further efforts on the subject. Burns occupies so large a space in the literary estimation of his country that he cannot fail to be the frequent object of criticism, but the general estimation of his character is perhaps sufficiently determined in the view of the public, who, without inquiring into the minutiae of his errors, are willing to overlook or excuse them in consideration of the obligation he has conferred on every person of sentiment and taste by his exquisite and imperishable productions. His fame is therefore secure, and stands in no need of further support, nor is there much to apprehend for the reputation of his faithful biographer, who, it is now universally admitted, has performed a task of uncommon difficulty in such a manner as to do no less honour to the feelings of his heart than to the strength of his judgment and the accuracy of his taste. But if this discussion be of little importance to the character of the dead, it is not so with respect to the living, and it would be culpable in me to conceal from you the apprehensions I feel from the publication of your work in the form in which it now appears. In fact, what is the substantial difference between your own narrative and that of Dr. Currie, when you explicitly admit that Burns "*endeavoured to overcome his aversion to drinking and succeeded in being able to drink like other people—that he had too much relish for convivial pleasure, and that as temptations to this vice increased he came, when set down with jovial company, too frequently to prolong the indulgence beyond the bounds marked by prudence.*"

I can find nothing in Dr. Currie's work more decisive on this subject, except it may be contended that the expression that he was "*perpetually stimulated by alcohol in one or other of its various forms*" is carried too far; but this, it must be remarked, is a technical expression dictated by the professional character of the author, from which it is not to be understood that Burns was in a perpetual state of intoxication, but merely that the effects of his "*too frequent indulgences*" were such as eventually to affect the general state of his health, till, as his biographer explains it in medical language, "*the inordinate action of the circulating system became at length habitual, the process of nutrition was unable to supply the waste, and the powers of life began to fail.*" From these statements, which, I assure you, I find it extremely painful to make, you will perceive:

that it is wholly impossible for me to suggest any alterations with the part of your narrative with which you have favoured me, or to implicate myself in discussions with those who have of late endeavoured to make the character of Burns a subject of public and acrimonious controversy. cannot, indeed, perceive, after the most mature deliberation, that any modification I can suggest can remove the embarrassment which must unavoidably arise from your attempting to bring forward a refutation of Dr. Currie's statements and opinions at such a distance of time after his death. I trust, however, that what I have stated may be of use so far as to enable you to see the subject in all its bearings, and in the earnest wish that you may form a just and proper decision as to the important step you are about to take, I remain, with real esteem, etc.,

W. ROSCOE.

The noteworthy points of this long communication are, the uncontradicted assertion that even Syme had not seen Dr. Currie's manuscript, and the admission that the evidence of Findlater and Gray might have influenced the "final opinion" of Dr. Currie. Mr. Roscoe's attempt to reconcile Gilbert's "admission" with Dr. Currie's "expression" is more ingenious than convincing.

GILBERT BURNS TO W. ROSCOE.

Grant's Braes, 10th December, 1817.

Dear Sir,—Yours of the 30th October I received in due course, and thank you for the freedom and the very obliging manner you have advertised on the papers submitted to your inspection. It was not necessary to quote my letters to Dr. Currie, which I perfectly remember, nor have I changed my opinion there expressed, as I know no biographical work which does more credit to its author, or which has been more favourably received by the world. As the utmost amount of anything I have said, or intended to say, is, that Dr. Currie had been misinformed on one particular point, and for which every one must see not the least blame could be attached to him, I could not have supposed it would have been considered so offensive by his friends, and which I most sincerely regret. You seem to think that, from my being at Liverpool for the purpose of giving assistance, and from Dr. Currie having consulted me on other subjects, I ought to be considered as advising, or, at least, consenting to the statements in question. I can assure you with truth, however, that I was not consulted on that subject farther than that once Dr. Currie asked me if I did not think it necessary to take some notice of my brother's errors, to which I assented, as required by candour and regard to truth; but of his estimate of the extent of these errors, or the statement he intended to make respecting them, I knew nothing till after the work was published to the world. In regard to the insincerity and inconsistency you seem to think me chargeable with, I can only say that, though I certainly felt a good deal distressed at the view given of my brother's morals towards the end of his life, yet living upwards.

of fifty miles distant, I had seen very little of him during the last three years of his life. I was certain the view given by Dr. Currie was agreeable to the information he had received from people he could not suspect of misrepresentation, and I had, at the time I wrote Dr. Currie, no specific objection to the statement given. Had I then been possessed of Mr. Findlater's letter, I should certainly have communicated it to Dr. Currie. But the truth is, I was not aware, either of the impression made on the public, or how much my brother's errors had been exaggerated to Dr. Currie, till some time after the publication of Cromek's *Gleanings*, when I received a letter from Mr. Findlater, containing extracts of the offensive matter in the *Quarterly Review*, and suggesting that I should publish a contradiction of the calumnies contained in it. I had afterwards a meeting with that gentleman on the subject, when I was fully convinced that my brother's errors had been overstated to Dr. Currie. As Mr. Findlater had occasion to see my brother much more frequently than almost any other person out of his own family, so he possesses in a high degree all the qualities requisite to entitle his evidence to credit. He is a gentleman of liberal education, of high manly character, who would scorn to violate truth for feud or favour, and superior to that silly vanity which so frequently leads to the violation of truth by aiming at giving a striking view of a subject. My aversion to writing, and the difficulties which lay in the way, have hitherto prevented my making any attempt to set the public right in this matter, but I cannot appear before the public, as editor of a new edition of my brother's works, without endeavouring all in my power to remove the obloquy which has been thrown on his memory. In doing so, however, I shall not publish Mr. Gray's animadversions on Dr. Currie's work, which I always felt it would be improper in me to be the publisher of; and as it would ill become me to do anything which I know to be disagreeable to Dr. Currie's friends, I shall alter what I have written so as to make as little allusion to Dr. Currie's work as a sense of my duty to my brother's memory will allow.—I remain, etc.,

GILBERT BURNS.

CADELL & DAVIES TO GILBERT BURNS.

London, 7th March, 1818.

Dear Sir,—Though we have not yet been favoured with a reply to our last, written more than two years ago, we trust that that letter came duly to your hands, and that its contents were, in all respects, satisfying to you. We have frequently been expecting the pleasure of hearing from you, conformably with the hopes given to us in your last favour of 19th January, 1816; but knowing that you were principally anxious to furnish us with such new materials as were capable of doing honour to your brother's memory, in the new edition which is to be brought forward under the sanction and authority of your name; knowing, too, that your time and attention are much occupied, we have been unwilling to break in upon you with too frequent letters on the subject. We now, however, think it best to drop you a few lines, lest we should appear to be wanting in due

attention to a subject and a correspondence in which we must ever feel a very lively interest, and to express our hearty wishes that you will soon be able to set our press to work on our new edition.—With sincere regard, etc.

CADELL & DAVIES.

GILBERT BURNS TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Grant's Braes, 14th March, 1818.

Gentlemen,—Yours of the 7th inst. I received in due course, and do not wonder that you should consider me asleep, or that I had forgot my engagements; but the fact is, six months ago I had written out what I had intended should finish the first volume, qualifying the representation of my brother's morals given by Dr. Currie. Before sending it to you, however, I thought it right to send it to Mr. Roscoe, requesting his observations on it, as, though I had written it with much caution, I was anxious to know how far it would meet the approbation of Dr. Currie's friends. Mr. Roscoe kept the manuscript a good while before I heard from him, and when he did return it I found him much more difficult to be satisfied than I had calculated on, and as it would ill become me to show any disregard of the feelings of Dr. Currie's friends, I found I would have to make some alteration of what I had written; but by the time Mr. Roscoe wrote me the end of the year was approaching, when a press of business always prevents me from attending to anything but business. I hope now, however, to be able to send you the contents of the two first volumes in a few weeks, and to arrange and complete the other two soon after. Allow me, however, to put you in mind that my brother's papers have never been sent from Liverpool, and to beg that you will endeavour to get them and forward them to me, as you will readily see that they are absolutely necessary to the proper completion of my task.—I remain, etc.,

GILBERT BURNS.

W. ROSCOE TO JAMES GRAY.

Liverpool, 16th March, 1818.

Sir,—I have to acknowledge the favour of yours of 28th February, and can assure you, with great sincerity, that in the discussions which have taken place respecting your late celebrated countryman and friend I have never attributed either to Mr. Gilbert Burns or yourself any intentional hostility to the memory of his biographer, Dr. Currie, whose meritorious labours are indeed too well known to be affected by anything that can now be said respecting them. What I have chiefly felt, and what still in some degree presses on my mind, is the difficulty of the situation in which Mr. Gilbert Burns is placed by having undertaken to controvert the statements of Dr. Currie so long after their publication, and after the unequivocal approbation expressed by him of the work. How he will be enabled to accomplish this object I confess I cannot as yet perceive, for, according to what I understand of his intentions, although the form may be changed, the substance

will remain the same. If I could have had the pleasure of a conversation with Mr. Burns there is an idea struck me which I should have mentioned to him, and which, though perhaps too late, I will state to you, to be made such use of as you may think proper. This idea is, that when he comes to that part of his narrative that relates to the moral character of his brother he should state that it had been his intention to have noticed and refuted the many aspersions which had been thrown out against his memory; but that although he had heard these imputations with equal indignation and surprise, he found it impossible for him to enter upon it in such a manner as either to do justice to his own feelings or to satisfy the public that the near relationship in which he stood to the Bard, although it might at first sight appear to qualify him more peculiarly for such a task, yet, in fact, laid him under great disadvantages, that whatever he might say in commendation of his brother might be attributed to the partiality of attachment and kindred, and must, consequently, lose much of its effect—yet any admission which he might in justice or candour be called on to make would, as coming from him, have double weight, and attach to his brother's memory a heavier charge than was intended, and that even to be the instrument of throwing out the slightest blame against one from whom he derived so much honour, and so truly loved, was a task he found he could not perform, and which could not be expected from him. That for these reasons he could scarcely consider himself, and he was sure the public would not consider him as an impartial witness, and that as he had resided at a considerable distance from his brother during the latter part of his life, there might be others whose testimony on this point might be considered as more impartial and authentic than his own. He had therefore thought it more advisable to apply to such friends as had known him most intimately in the latter part of his life, and particularly to Mr. Findlater and yourself, etc., whose accounts would effectually remove, etc., etc.

W. ROSCOE.

W. ROSCOE TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Liverpool, 9th April, 1818.

Gentlemen,— With respect to Mr. Gilbert Burns's proposed memoir of his brother, of which he sent me a part, which was, in consequence of my other unavoidable engagements, detained by me for a few weeks, I have only to observe that it appeared to me so totally contradictory to the essential part he had taken in Dr. Currie's narrative, and to his own express declarations in his letters to Dr. Currie, that I could not (from the regard I bore to Mr. Gilbert Burns himself) forbear from laying before him in the strongest terms, and at considerable length, the apprehensions I entertained of the consequences of his publication, which, without answering the end proposed, must, from the interference of other persons who have no real goodwill towards any of the parties, be extremely painful to every one truly interested in his character and fame. I have since had a correspondence with Mr. James Gray on the same subject, and have suggested an idea which might relieve Mr. Burns from

the difficulty in which, I fear, he is placing himself; but whether Mr. Gray has communicated it to him or not I have not yet heard. In consequence of Mr. Burns's request to have his late brother's papers transmitted to him, I have made it my business to see Mr. Wallace Currie, who has furnished me with a copy of his letter to you on that subject in January, 1817, on which it would not become me to make any comment further than to say that almost the whole of them have been printed; that the remainder were examined with the greatest care by Dr. Currie, Mr. Syme, and even by Mr. Gilbert Burns himself; that I have since looked them over several times, and that my opinion coincided with that of the other friends of the Poet; and that, above all, I am not aware that anything can be found amongst them (which has not already been published) that gives the Bard a higher station, or places his character in a more favourable light than it has already attained.—Believe me, etc.,

W. ROSCOE.

W. ROSCOE TO MR. M'CREERY.

My Dear Friend,—I now return you Mr. Gilbert Burns's memoir of his late celebrated brother, which I had before seen in the same state, I believe, or nearly so, as it appears at present, and upon which I had long ago furnished him with my remarks. I had flattered myself that what I had been compelled so pointedly to state to him would have induced him to follow my suggestions, and to have been satisfied with referring for the narrative of some of the last years of the Poet's life to the letters of Mr. Findlater and Mr. Gray; but from the memoir having now been forwarded for printing, I presume this is not intended. I therefore think it necessary to forward to you a copy of the correspondence which passed between Mr. Gilbert Burns, Mr. Gray, and myself upwards of a year since on this subject, and which, I think, it would be advisable for you to submit to Messrs. Cadell & Davies, that they may judge what course it may be most proper to pursue. If they should think it most advisable to pursue the mode recommended in my letter to Mr. Gray of the 16th March, 1818, it would remove all difficulties on the subject, and would besides get clear of a good deal of extraneous matter in Mr. Gilbert Burns's memoir—such as the tracing the progress of manners from the time of Charles II., the account of party politics in Scotland, and the observations on spies and informers, which are not particularly called for in such a work, and could be attended with no beneficial effects. If, however, it should be thought advisable to publish the memoir as it now stands, I can only say that my observations upon it are already on record; that they have been submitted to Mr. W. Wallace Currie, the son of Dr. Currie, and that I shall consider myself as liable to be guided by his wishes as to the use that it may be proper to make of them. At the same time, from the sincere esteem I feel for Mr. Gilbert Burns, as well as from my reluctance to be drawn into a debate on a subject which has already given rise to so much acrimony, I most sincerely wish to be excused any further interference on this subject. What I have done has been with an earnest desire of accommodating the

views of all parties as far as consistent with what is due to the memory of my ever-lamented friend, Dr. Currie, and to a still higher sanction, which, I am sure, none of them would intentionally infringe.—I am, etc.,

W. ROSCOE.

CADELL & DAVIES TO GILBERT BURNS.

London, 27th April, 1818.

Dear Sir,—We had great pleasure in learning from your last letter of the 14th of March that you, at that time, thought it probable that you should be able to send us the two first volumes of your brother's works, properly prepared for the improved edition, in a very few weeks, with hopes of the other two volumes being arranged in like manner, very soon after.

Since the receipt of your last letter, we have again written to Mr. Roscoe, reminding him of your wish to be put in possession of the whole of your brother's papers, and in his answer thereto, Mr. Roscoe thus writes to us—"I have made it my business to see Mr. Wallace Currie, who agrees with me in opinion that almost the whole of the papers have been printed; that the remainder were examined with the greatest care by Dr. Currie, Mr. Syme, and even by Mr. Gilbert Burns himself; that I have since looked them over several times, and that my opinion coincides with that of the other friends of the Poet, and that, above all, I am not aware that anything can be found amongst them (which have not already been published) that can give the Bard a higher station, or place his character in a more favourable light than it has already attained." This is all that Mr. Roscoe says, in consequence of our late application, and we therefore submit to you, that it will perhaps be better, under all circumstances, to allow the papers to remain in the possession of Dr. Currie's family: as we certainly are much more anxious to have the new edition distinguished by its being brought forward under your entire sanction and approbation, as including such materials and information as have appeared since the publication of Dr. Currie's edition, than by any extent of additional matter to which any of the Bard's numerous admirers can object on any ground whatever.—We are, etc.,

CADELL & DAVIES.

GILBERT BURNS TO MESSRS. CADELL & DAVIES.

Grant's Braes, 16th July, 1818.

Gentlemen,—I have now finished all the alterations my conscience would allow me to make, from regard to the feelings of Dr. Currie's friends, and herewith send you a fair copy for publication. I hope you will agree with me in thinking that no friend of Dr. Currie's will have any just reason to take offence at what I now send you. I wish what I send you, on the subject of the habits of my brother's life, to be put at the end of Vol. I., in an Appendix No. IV. I wish a mark of reference to be placed at the end of Dr. Currie's relation of my brother's removal to

Dumfries, about the end of the year 1791, at the top of page 199, and the following note placed at the foot of that page—"On the subject of the Poet's habits of life, the reader is requested to turn to Appendix No. IV., at the end of this volume.—G.B."

This, with what I formerly sent on 26th November, 1816, is all that I think of adding or altering in the first volume, only that, in my letter to Dr. Currie in Appendix No. III., I wish the long paragraph on page 288 and top of page 289, following the words, "I have learned to have less confidence in my capacity of writing on such subjects," to be left out. I likewise send what I have selected as the contents of Vol. II., which, I hope, will meet your approbation. On Vol. III. I do not see that much alteration can be made, except that I think the songs in it should be removed to the fourth volume, immediately after the correspondence with Mr. Thomson, that all the lyrical pieces may be found in one volume. I shall expect to hear from you immediately on the receipt of this, and beg you will say whether you approve of the above alterations of the third and fourth volumes. To the third volume I still wish to add a note on the ridicule of serious subjects contained in the "Holy Fair," and some other of the poems of that kind, which seem to have offended some people who are not informed of the state of the religious profession and practices in that part of Scotland at the time these poems were written, but this note is not begun. I likewise meditate, perhaps, publishing some rough, but humorous, verses of my brother's, which appeared in *Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine* of February last, and I have likewise been thinking we ought to publish my brother's cantata of "Jolly Beggars," and am at present in search of a copy in the author's handwriting, which I have not, and I dare not trust transcribers. Of all these matters I hope to write you very soon, and, in the meantime, will be glad to receive your opinion when you acknowledge the receipt of this parcel.—I am, etc.,

GILBERT BURNS.

J. M'CREERY TO CADELL AND DAVIES.

Dear Sir,—In the framing of your letter to Gilbert Burns, if the following *hints* can be of any service in alleviating your labour I shall be very glad.—I am, etc.,

J. M'CREERY.

It will now be necessary to speak on one subject connected with your labours for our new edition, which we consider rather of a delicate nature. Mutual friends as we are to all the parties, we feel ourselves deeply concerned, and most anxious for a continuation of that friendship which had its commencement in the noblest sentiments of our nature, and which has now remained uninterrupted for so great a length of time. You will readily perceive that we allude to the very serious objections of Mr. Roscoe, and the family of the biographer of your brother, have to any statement from you in contradiction of any part of the life. After the perusal of Mr. Roscoe's excellent letter to you on the subject, and that to Mr. Gray, it appears to us that the difference is of so trivial a nature that a very slight stretch of accommodation on your part will set all to rights, and

will, we assure you, be considered by us as a *personal favour*, affording to us the pleasing confidence of nothing arising hereafter by way of controversy between parties so much friends at heart. We would therefore suggest, as Dr. Currie's family, as well as Mr. Roscoe, have no wish to stifle any circumstances that can now be fairly brought forward in favour of the Bard, and as Mr. Roscoe, in Mr. Gray's letter of the ———, has pointed out the reasons that may reconcile all parties, that you would adopt his suggestion, and thus set all differences at rest. . . .

CADELL & DAVIES TO GILBERT BURNS.

London, 25th March, 1819.

Dear Sir,— A short time ago we took an opportunity of communicating your manuscript appendix to the life of your illustrious brother to the confidential perusal of Mr. Roscoe, because we well know that his perfect recollection of all the circumstances connected with the works of the Bard, and with Dr. Currie's biography of him, and that the strong regard which, we were satisfied, he entertained for you, would be most essential in reconciling any differences that might probably be found between a few papers in Dr. Currie's life and the appendix with which you were now about to favour the world. Mr. Roscoe, though much occupied of late, has now returned your MSS. to us, accompanied by copies of his very long and interesting letter to you, dated 30th October, 1817, and of his letter to Mr. James Gray, dated 16th March, 1818. He also addressed a letter to us, from which we enclose the following extract. (*Here follows copy of W. Roscoe's letter to Mr. M'Creery, already given supra.*) "Having thus, dear sir, put you in full possession of Mr. Roscoe's sentiments, either in his letters addressed to you and to Mr. James Gray several months ago, or in this last one recently received by ourselves, we confidently trust that you will kindly introduce such alterations on the MSS. you have sent to us as will satisfactorily meet the wishes of the friends of the late Dr. Currie; yet do ample justice, in all respects, to the memory of the honoured Bard. As proprietors of the copyright of your brother's works, which you are obligingly intending to assist us in protecting against the piratical attacks that are now made upon it on all sides, it strikes us that it would not be prudent, in a commercial point of view, to omit in the new edition any of the contents of the former editions, however desirous we may be to introduce as much new matter as you may recommend; and that you can in no other way afford us a more effectual aid against these piracies than by adding, in the way of notes in the several works, well-authenticated anecdotes of the several persons and places referred to—such as Highland Mary—a more extended account of Mrs. Riddel and the family of Riddels as friends of the Poet—Dr. Hornbook—Nanse Tannock, etc., etc., etc.—the situation of Mrs. Burns, her conduct during her widowhood; her children, how disposed of in life—a description of the monuments—an account of the annual commemoration of his birthday in Scotland and in England—all these and numberless others—restorations of the frequent blanks in the poems, etc., such as in the

‘Ordination,’ and the filling up of names, as far as delicacy may now permit. If Mrs. Dunlop be dead, some account of her might be interesting, as she was a descendant of William Wallace, a lineage of which she had a just estimate. A liberal sprinkling of such articles as these from the brother of the esteemed Bard would, indeed, give more zest to our new edition than sheets of dry disquisition. Notes of this kind would hang like little gems at the bottom of the poems, and would be considered as the best that they could acquire in the way of elucidation. A few engravings will also be proper, and to these we will take care that proper attention is paid, and to any other object to which you may be so obliging as to direct our notice we shall be most happy to attend.”—We are, dear Sir, etc.,

CADELL & DAVIES.

P.S.—We mention the above rather as explaining our opinions to you of the matters that it may be advantageous to add, than with any desire to confine you to the particular instances.

CADELL & DAVIES TO GILBERT BURNS.

London, 28th May, 1819.

Dear Sir,—It is very far from our wish to urge you in such a way as to occasion any sort of inconvenience respecting the new edition of your brother’s works, more especially after the long delay which had been unfortunately occasioned by illness and other unavoidable causes, before we were able to give ourselves the pleasure of addressing to you the very long letter sent six or eight weeks ago. But we beg leave to say that should the leisure of the present spring afford you sufficient time for completing any important portion of the “works,” such as we might put into our printer’s hands, we should feel much gratified by your enabling us to make a beginning on our new edition, with such a part as may have been corrected to your wishes, as early as you may be able to send it to us. The instant we have the pleasure of hearing from you, in answer hereto, we shall think it advisable to announce the new edition as “preparing for publication,” and we request the favour of your suggesting anything that you wish introduced in such announcement.—We are, etc.,

CADELL & DAVIES.

CADELL & DAVIES TO W. ROSCOE.

London, 11th June, 1819.

Dear Sir,—We have at length a very long letter from Mr. Gilbert Burns, in which he proposed to alter a passage in one of the new articles prepared for the Appendix to his brother’s works. This article, which is marked No. 4 of the Appendix, has been already shown to you, but we have thought it best to send it to you again, that you may the more clearly perceive the alteration that he intends. We hope you will be able to return this portion of his MSS., together with your sentiments respecting

his intended alteration, in the course of a day or two, as it is now highly desirable that we be enabled to set our friend M^rCreery to work as soon as we possibly can.—We are, etc.,

CADELL & DAVIES.

W. ROSCOE TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Dear Sirs,—I now return you the part of Mr. Gilbert Burns's narrative which you last sent me, and which I am very sorry to have detained rather longer than I intended. I had before expressed my opinion so fully on this subject to Mr. Burns himself that it has left me nothing to add, nor can I perceive any important alteration that is expected by the omission now proposed. This is a subject in which you will perceive that I have no direct or personal interest, the motives of my interference being merely to prevent any unfortunate collision of sentiment between those who have hitherto entertained for each other sentiments only of attachment and respect, and at the same time to prevent anything appearing, and in the sanction of your name, inconsistent with what had before been published. Having done this to the best of my judgment, I must leave the result to Mr. Burns and to yourselves; but a very slight examination of what I have before written on this subject will show how impossible it is for me to express a general approbation of the narrative which has been submitted to my inspection. Much less can I answer for those who stand in a nearer connection with the late Dr. Currie, and who on a question of this nature must necessarily be left to judge for themselves.—Believe me, with sincerest attachment, etc.,

W. ROSCOE.

CADELL & DAVIES TO GILBERT BURNS.

London, 5th July, 1819.

Dear Sir,—As we must ever be influenced by a strong desire to reconcile any difference that may exist between two such ardent and attached friends to the fame and character of your distinguished brother, as yourself and our excellent friend Mr. Roscoe, who we well know, whenever your opinions do not exactly coincide, are only wishing to protect the Poet's fame by such means as appear to each of you as best calculated to produce that effect. We have thought it best to communicate to Mr. Roscoe the principal part of the last letter with which you favoured us, and he no longer intimating any wish to be at all consulted respecting any reference that you may intend to make to Dr. Currie's biography—still, however, feeling an earnest hope that you will do ample justice to the kindness and benevolence by which alone Dr. Currie was induced to enter so warmly into the publication in question, we are most anxious to begin the printing of the new edition, and we request you will be so obliging as send us the first volume of your corrected copy, upon which the printer is now perfectly ready for commencing his operations, with every desire to complete the work without the least interruption. It may be sent to us by the mail coach. We think the advertisement announcing the new edition may be thus inserted, or corrected in any way that you are so good as point out:—

“BURNS’S WORKS. NEW AND IMPROVED EDITION.

“PREPARING FOR PUBLICATION.

“Handsomely printed in Four Vols. (Octavo). The works of Robert Burns, with an account of his life and a criticism on his writings, and some observations on the character and condition of the Scottish peasantry, by the late Dr. James Currie of Liverpool—to which are now first added some further particulars of the author’s life, and notes illustrative of his poems and his letters, and many other additions. By Mr. Gilbert Burns, the author’s brother. Printed for, etc.”

We are, etc.,

CADELL & DAVIES.

Grant’s Braes, 10th July, 1819.

Gentlemen,—I duly received yours of the 5th inst., and I fear Mr. Roscoe, in declining any further reference to him, is as much in a pet as I was; but I really wish he would in his imagination place himself a little more in my situation than he seems to have done, and consider what my feelings must be and have been. When I sent you my remarks on the Scottish peasantry, 26th November, 1816, and the memoir respecting my brother, which I sent you 16th July, 1818, I had intended them for publication, and thought the other directions inserted in that letter would have enabled the printer to have gone on with the first volume. It will, however, be best, as you suggest, that I send a first volume with the additions, cancelments, and corrections I wish marked in their proper places. As, however, my son, who copied these long papers for me, is now at a distance from me, and as it would occupy too much of my time to write another fair copy, as well as that on both I have some alterations to make, I beg you will send me both these papers in a packet by the mail coach, to be left with Mr. Martin at the Post Office, Haddington, and in the course of a few days after the receipt of them I will send you the first volume. In your last you do not mention how far you approve of the contents of the second volume, which I sent you 16th July, 1818. Perhaps as I do not wish to appear to have any connection with publishing the whole of Cromek’s *Reliques* you may wish me to leave them entire, without putting any part of them in the edition I am connected with, though I should like to incorporate the few letters I have selected from the *Reliques*, or I could select several more if you should wish that. I beg you will write me fully on that subject when you send the papers, as I wish to begin the second volume the moment I shall have finished the first.—
I remain, etc.,

GILBERT BURNS.

CADELL & DAVIES TO GILBERT BURNS.

London, 16th July, 1819.

Dear Sir,—We feel much gratified with the contents of your letter of the 10th received this morning. You have suggested what has long been our wish respecting the arrangement of the volumes, but we felt some delicacy in interfering with your editorial opinions. We think we

expressed a wish that our new edition should include the whole of what was contained in Dr. Currie's volumes, the *Reliques* resting entirely on the character of their collector, which could not cast any reflection upon you. We have, moreover, found that this volume of *Reliques* is in no mean estimation with the public, and it strikes us that its being mingled with the others would cause an opinion to get abroad that much more was withheld than probably you would think it necessary to omit.

We have this day had the pleasure of sending the MSS. you direct by the mail coach, directed for you, to be left with Mr. Martin, at the Post Office, Haddington, and we again beg leave to add the sooner we are favoured, the more we shall feel obliged.—We are, etc.,

CADELL & DAVIES.

GILBERT BURNS TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Grant's Braes, 4th August, 1819.

Gentlemen,—I send this day by the mail coach the first volume of my brother's life and works with such corrections and improvements as have occurred to me necessary and fit to be introduced. You will see that I have availed myself of some hints received from you, and if anything further occurs to you by which I might have it in my power to make the work more perfect, or more valuable to you, or if any objection appears to you to lie against anything I have done, I beg you will communicate it freely, as I am anxious to do everything which may be in my power to increase the value of your property in these volumes and make it permanent. I will proceed with preparing the second volume as fast as I can, and hope to be able to send it to you in two or three weeks. You may perhaps think this a longer period than might be necessary, as I had made out contents for it before, but I think to go over it again deliberately and minutely to try if I can do anything more for perfecting it. Meanwhile, I shall be glad to receive any hints you may think necessary respecting it or the following, and remain, yours truly,

GILBERT BURNS.

GILBERT BURNS TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Grant's Braes, 15th September, 1819.

Gentlemen,—I return you the slips, with what corrections appeared to me necessary, with some trifling alterations which I hope it will not be inconvenient for you to make. I am delighted with the specimen you have sent me of the printing, which I think very beautiful, correct, and elegant. I send you likewise the second volume prepared for the press, which I should gladly have improved more, but after looking over it again and again with the utmost care, I could find nothing further in my power. The three love letters I never thought fit for publication, and should like ill to restore what Dr. Currie saw reason for withdrawing: but if you may think it much for your interest I shall not object to their being published, and you may insert them in the order of their dates, but I would much rather omit them. I see by the sheets you have sent me that Dr. Currie

has continued to improve the work to the fourth edition. As I have only the second edition, if there has been any addition to, or improvements of, the third and fourth volumes, it will be necessary that you send me the fourth edition of these volumes. I cannot publish either the "Jolly Beggars" or "Holy Willie's Prayer." If you think it necessary to have them, add them to the volume of *Reliques*. I will expect the third and fourth volumes as soon as possible if there be any reason for sending them at all, as I wish to devote every spare moment to getting them prepared. I have got one or two trifling, but pretty enough, things in verse which have never appeared in print which I will add to the third volume.—I remain, etc.,

GILBERT BURNS.

CADELL & DAVIES TO GILBERT BURNS.

Dear Sir,—We had the pleasure of receiving your letter of the 15th, and were very much gratified by finding that the fair sheets of the new edition now executed by Mr. M'Creery have given you so much satisfaction. We now enclose a continuation of those fair sheets, together with the third and fourth volumes of Dr. Currie's last edition, which we are anxious to submit to your own comparative examination before your corrected copy of those volumes are sent to us for the press. We accept with much pleasure the new poems (however short) which you propose adding to our new edition, but by no means wish to introduce the "Jolly Beggars" and "Holy Willie's Prayer," against which you have so decided an objection.—We are, etc.,

CADELL & DAVIES.

GILBERT BURNS TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Grant's Braes, 29th September, 1819.

Gentlemen,—I received your parcel and letter. The little proposed to be given in the contents of the first volume to my account of my brother's family will do. Do you propose introducing any new decorations in your present edition? If so, what would you think of a fac-simile of the Poet's hand-writing? I do not say this as if I wished it, which I do not at all, except you think it would add to the value of your edition, or tend to perpetuate your right. If you should think of this, I have a very brotherly letter I received from the Poet in 1791, which, although it alludes to some family matters of rather a delicate nature, I am a good deal inclined to give you for the purpose, and which might be inserted, according to its date, without interrupting the series of numbers or pages in the second volume; or, I have a poem of his which never was printed, and, though not of much merit, and too local for publication otherwise, might pass as a specimen of the hand-writing. It is considerably tattered, having been a good deal handed about before it came into my possession, and one or two words are wanting, but which might be supplied in another hand. They are both rather too long, the letter occupying a page and a half pretty large post paper, and the poem containing seven stanzas of eight lines, and none of them afford an advantageous specimen. On perusing the sheets you have sent, I have only discovered one inaccuracy, the want of a letter in the note at the bottom of page 318. I likewise observe that one or two sentences

in my own account of the family are very carelessly constructed, but I suppose it is now too late to alter them. I shall be glad to hear what you think of the suggestion regarding the fac-simile, but do not suppose that I feel any personal interest in it whatever.—I remain, etc.,

GILBERT BURNS.

CADELL & DAVIES TO GILBERT BURNS.

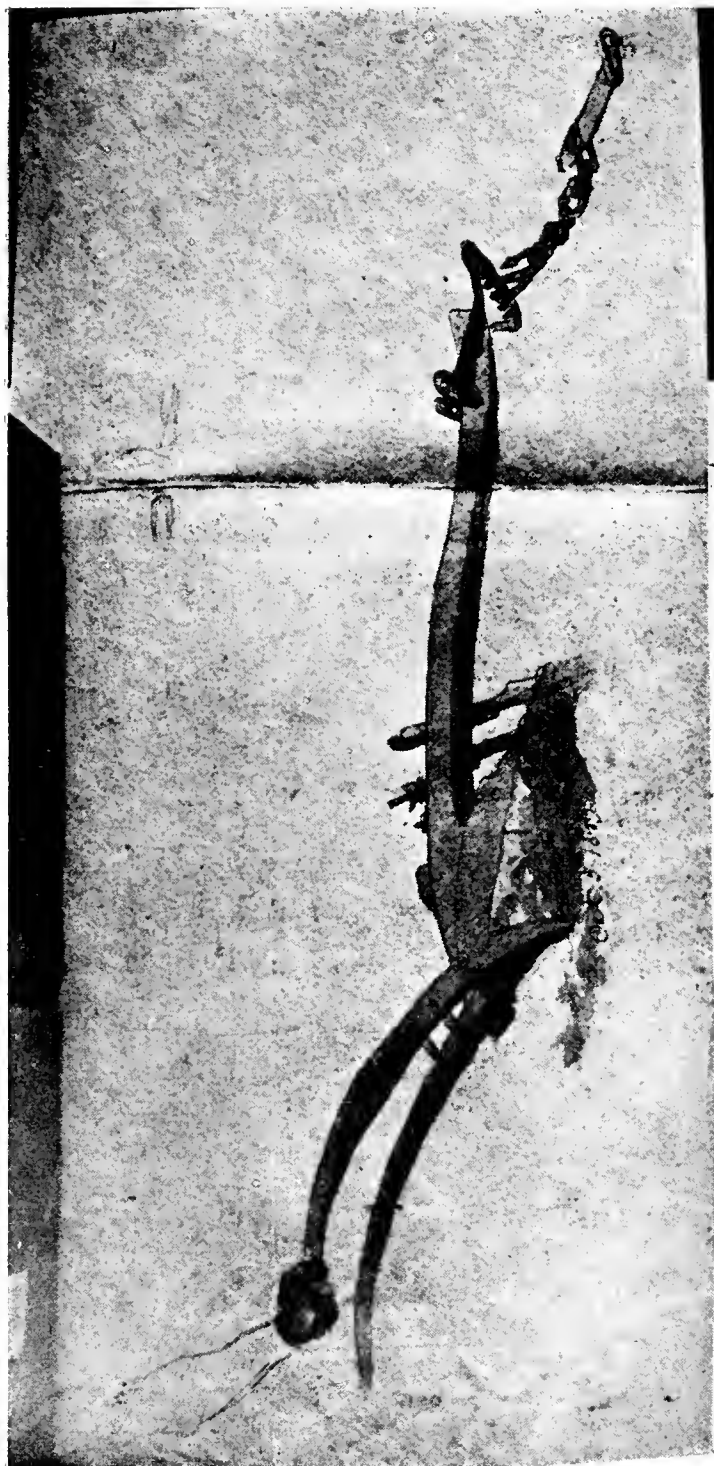
Dear Sir,—In reply to your obliging letter of 29th September, we have now the pleasure of saying that we adopt your idea of the fac-simile of your brother's writing, and think it can be best given by accurately engraving his letter to you. The poem also, however it may appear to be comparatively deficient in general interest, is too valuable to be omitted. This will come among the contents of the third volume. We therefore request you will send both the letter and the new poem, together with the correct copy of the third volume as soon as you possibly can, as the printer is now at a standstill for it.—We are, etc., CADELL & DAVIES.

This, then, is the full narrative of Gilbert Burns's connection with the Currie edition, and we leave our readers to draw their own conclusions. This much is made perfectly clear. From the first, Gilbert was overweighted with too keen a sense of the obligations of the Burns family to that of Dr. Currie, which led to the consuming desire to avoid the most trivial cause of offence which is only too plainly apparent. He wrote under the emasculating influence of a censorship which paralysed all editorial independence; what he did write was whittled down till it lost all semblance of force and originality; and every influence was constantly brought to bear to keep him in line with the stereotyped narrative of Dr. Currie. In another connection he writes—"Dr. Currie was misinformed, but he must not be contradicted," and it might have been as well if he had said that and nothing more concerning the Biography. Like all who hesitate, he fell between the two stools.

D. M'NAUGHT.

THE OLD SCOTS PLOUGH.

INTERSPERSED through "The Earnock MSS." are several water-colours by Stodhard, among which is a sketch of the veritable plough used by the Poet at Mossgiel, a reproduction of which appears on the opposite page. Through the kindness of Mr. A. B. Todd, the veteran Burnsite of Cumnock, we are enabled to supplement the illustration by a verbal description.



The Old Scots Plough.

The Old Scots Plough.

The old wooden plough, with, of course, iron mountings, of which the preceding is a very excellent drawing, and with which Burns undoubtedly turned over the stiff and stubborn soil of Mossiel, was undoubtedly the old original Scots plough which had been in use from "time out of mind," although exactly ten years previous to that time it had begun to be formed in a more artistic manner. I can very well remember the old original wood plough, and Mr. Wilkie's improvement of it, as my father had both, though I never saw the old original one at work. It was a most clumsy implement, and cannot be better described than in the words of the late Mr. William Aiton, of Strathaven, son of the then tenant of Silverwood, near Kilmarnock, who, writing in the year 1811, thus speaks of it:—"The head of the Scotch plough was of wood, from 2 to 3 feet long, and about 6 to 8 inches on the square. The sock was 8 inches in diameter at the hinder end, and nearly 2 feet long. The beam was from 6 to 9 feet long, and nearly 20 inches round at the middle, the wrest about 2½ feet in length, and the stilts, or handles, about 5 or 6 feet long. It required great power to move this monster of a plough, but when rightly constructed it cut and set up a well-shaped furrow of large dimensions, and it was well calculated for labouring land which was stiff and benty, or much encumbered with small stones." About that time, however, the wooden plough began to be more artistically formed and made much lighter, and though modelled after quite the same fashion it was far more easily handled by the ploughman and drawn by the horses. But the old plough could turn over a much larger breadth of land, though never with fewer horses yoked to it than four, which explains the lines of Burns in his "Answer to a Mandate"—

" Imprimis, then, for carriage cattle,
 I have four brutes o' gallant mettle
 As ever drew afore a pettle :
 My Lan' afore's a guid auld has-been,
 An' wight an' wilfu' a' his days been,
 My Lan' ahin's a weel gaun fillie
 That aft has borne me hame frae Killie.

My Fur ahin's a wordy beast
 As e'er in tug or tow was traced :
 The fourth's a Highland Donald hastie,
 A d——d red-wud Kilburnie blastie."

Thus it will be seen that four horses were then yoked to this heavy plough, which guided by a “gaudsman”—a lad half-grown—were driven on at great speed (especially when ploughing stubble land and turning over a furrow 20 inches or 2 feet broad), actually, as Burns says, turning over “sax roods” (an acre and a half) in a day, which really is no exaggeration, as in our younger years we had it from the mouths of those who were the contemporaries of Burns, my own father being only nine years his junior, and well acquainted with him. Although Burns never succeeded well as a farmer, he had a perfect knowledge of the best methods then in use, and never once have we found him in error when writing on any agricultural subject.



MR. BALFOUR ON BURNS.

THE freedom of the burgh of Dumfries was, on 24th August last, conferred on the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour in recognition of his distinguished services as a statesman; and, at the same time, Miss Jessie M'Kie, of the Moat House, was admitted as a burgess as a token of the respect of the towns-people, in reciprocation of her affection for her native burgh, and an acknowledgment of her efforts for its improvement. The ceremony took place at noon in the Drill Hall, in presence of a company numbering about 2000 persons, specially invited. Provost Glover took the chair, and was supported on the right and left by Miss M'Kie and Mr. Balfour. Besides the Magistrates and members of the Council there were present on the platform Lord and Lady Herries, Sir Mark J. M'T. Stewart, M.P., and Lady Stewart; Sir R. T. Reid, M.P., and Lady Reid; Sir William Arrol; Sir James Crichton Browne, M.D.; Mr. Akers Douglas, M.P., First Commissioner of Works; Mr. Akers Douglas, jun.; Mr. Robinson Souttar, M.P., and Mrs. Souttar; Mr. Maxwell, of Munches; Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell, of Terraughtrie; Mr. and Mrs. Dudgeon, of Cargen; ex-Provost Shortridge, ex-Provost Lennox, Mr. W. A. Dinwiddie, Dumfries; Mr. Grierson, town-clerk; Bailie Farries, Bailie Currie, and Dean Hiddleston. Apologies for absence were intimated from the Duke and Duchess of Buccleuch; the Earl of Dalkeith, M.P., and the Countess of Dalkeith; Sir Alexander and Lady Grierson, of Rockhall; Sir Herbert and Lady Maxwell, of Monreith; Sir Robert Jardine, of Castlemilk; Mr. Fergusson, of Craigdarroch; Mr. and Mrs. Brooke, of Hoddam; Miss Stewart, Southwick; Provost Hiddleston, Annan; and Mr. and Mrs. Dickson, of Dabton.

The PROVOST, in making the presentation, said:—I have now the honour of addressing myself to the Right Hon. Arthur James Balfour, M.P., and on behalf of the Magistrates, Town Council, and community, beg to offer for his acceptance the freedom of our ancient and royal burgh. It is

the highest honour we have in our power to bestow, and I beg to assure the right hon. gentleman that it is conferred free from any consideration of party, but offered spontaneously, with great heartiness, goodwill, and good wishes, in full appreciation of the colossal talents which he brings ungrudgingly and untiringly to the service of our Queen and country. (Cheers.) I may safely assert, then, that here in Dumfries we can and do occasionally rise above party when we meet to honour a great statesman who has won the admiration, love, and confidence of his friends and supporters by reason of the rarest gifts, and earned the respect and esteem of his political opponents by his unfailing courtesy and lofty character. (Cheers.) In this climate of the free, the freedom of Dumfries should have some special significance for a Scotsman, however illustrious. The historical fact can never be allowed to die that here within our walls the Bruce began the fight which for ever settled the question of Scottish independence. (Cheers.) Dumfries is writ largely in almost every page of Scottish story. Here by the classic banks of the Nith your brother burgess, Robert Burns, sang his sweetest lays, and in the spirit of purest patriotism poured forth the rousing refrain—

“ Does haughty Gaul invasion threat ?

Be Britain still to Britain true,
Amang oursel's united,
For never but by British hands
Maun British wrangs be righted.”

—a sentiment which was re-echoed with the wildest enthusiasm over every hill and glen and valley of our native land, and which did much to correct the uninformed opinion of the time. (Cheers.) We all regret, sir, that the state of your health prevented your coming down to Dumfries last year to take part in what Lord Rosebery has described as “the finest memorial service he had ever seen.” (Cheers.) But we were well assured of your sympathy. As an intellectual chief of our Scottish race ranking in the highest strata of refined thought, we are delighted at having this opportunity of honouring you, and on behalf of my colleagues in the Town Council and the community I now beg to present you with the freedom of the royal burgh of Dumfries. (Loud cheers.)

MR. BALFOUR, who was received with loud cheers, said :— Mr. Provost, my Lords, ladies, and gentlemen, fellow-burgesses, and fellow Scotsmen, I rise to thank you for the great honour which has this day in your presence been done me by your representatives, the Town Council of Dumfries. (Cheers.) It would have been an honour in any circumstances to have been made a burghess of this royal and ancient burgh, but the honour to me is doubled by the statement which the Provost made at the beginning of his kind remarks, when he told you that party had nothing whatever to do with the ceremony in which we are now taking part. (Cheers.) It is the fate, the unhappy fate, of politicians, living and working in a free country, and living and working, therefore, in a political atmosphere, from which party cannot and ought not to be banished, it is their misfortune that they cannot always escape from those party considerations which are a necessary element in our public life, but which ought not to be permitted to enfold and impress the whole of that life which we share as citizens of a common country. (Cheers.) It is therefore a matter to me of special gratification when a mark of the affection and regard of my fellow-countrymen is given me, as it is given me on the present occasion, with no thought of party contrasts, with no thought of party controversy lying at the back of it, with no hope and no desire to obtain political capital out of anything that may be said or done. (Cheers.) Now you have referred to the fact that it has been my most earnest hope and desire that I should pay a visit to Dumfries on an earlier occasion than the present. I had hoped up to the very last moment that I might have been privileged to take part in the great ceremony which these walls saw a little over a year ago, and to have been an auditor as well as a reader of the admirable observations which Lord Rosebery made upon that occasion. But as my Parliamentary friends—and there are many of them here—as my Parliamentary friends will tell you, the House of Commons is for the leader of the House a very jealous employer. (Cheers.) It does not readily grant leave while the session is still going on, and if I rightly remember, I was, at the moment in which you were occupied with the Burns celebration, sitting some ten, or twelve hours a day within the walls of the House of Commons listening to a debate which was certainly prolonged,

and which I trust was useful. (Laughter.) It is a singular fact that within a comparatively brief number of months I have had my attention directed to no less than four ceremonials connected with great literary men, and all these men were Scotsmen. (Cheers.) There was the Burns celebration of last July, there was the most interesting ceremony which took place in London, at which I was present, in which the memory of Carlyle was the subject dealt with in connection with the acquisition of the house in which he lived, in perpetual memory of the work which he did for literature. There was the Stevenson meeting in Glasgow—(cheers)—at which, unluckily, I could not be present, although I earnestly desired to be; and there was the meeting connected with the memorial put up to Sir Walter Scott—(cheers)—in Westminster Abbey, a meeting in which I had the great honour of taking part. Now, these four names, which have thus within a very brief space come up in this public manner for public recognition before different audiences in the United Kingdom, were, as I have said, all Scotsmen—were, in a manner, all men who were not only Scotsmen by birth but Scotsmen to the core—by training, by education, by love of their country. (Cheers.) I do not suppose that four such men of common origin, and in a sense of common training, I do not suppose that four more different geniuses could be found in the literature of any other country. (Cheers.) Of all these four men, without doubt, the one who I will not say is the greatest, for these comparisons are impossible, but the one who is nearest to the hearts of the great mass of his fellow-countrymen—is Robert Burns. (Cheers.) Of course, as I have just said, it is impossible to make literary comparisons between such diverse geniuses with any hope of arriving at a fruitful result, and, indeed, Stevenson has been too recently dead, too recently taken from us, for even the hardest critic to venture to prophesy the exact position which he is destined ultimately to occupy in the literary history of his country. This, I think, however, we may say of him—we may say that he was a man of the finest and the most delicate imagination, and that he wielded in the service of that imagination a style which for grace, for suppleness, for its power of being at once turned to any purpose which the author desired has seldom been matched—in my judgment it has

hardly ever been equalled—by any writer, English or Scotch. (Cheers.) Carlyle—it would perhaps be absurd to expect that he, the historian and the philosopher, should be as much understood by the great mass of mankind as a poet or a writer of romance; and indeed I don't feel myself that I am sufficiently of the straitest sect of that great man's admirers to be able to speak worthily of him here. I hold that only those who can admire fully and freely are competent critics of great genius—(cheers)—and that Carlyle was a great genius—that Carlyle had in him a force and originality of nature which enabled him to speak to two generations of his countrymen with a power and a force on some of the deepest and most important subjects which can interest us—that Carlyle could do that as perhaps no man has been able to do it, is a fact which, whether we admire Carlyle or do not admire him, we must acknowledge as honest historians he succeeded in doing. But if we can hardly expect that the author of "Sartor Resartus" and of the "French Revolution" should be a popular favourite and popular friend in the same sense that Burns was and is a popular friend, the case is not so easy when we come to Sir Walter Scott—(cheers)—for Sir Walter Scott was not only one of the greatest men of letters that have ever lived in any country, but he was also one of the best and most lovable of men who have ever adorned any society. (Cheers.) And as time goes on, so far from his fame becoming dimmed or the knowledge of him becoming the property only of the few, it seems to me, as far as I can judge, he is more likely to defy the ravages of time than almost any other of the writers who have adorned the present century. (Cheers.) And yet, ladies and gentlemen, holding that opinion I return to what I said at the beginning of these remarks—that of the four great Scotsmen thus recently celebrated, all of whom wrote and lived within little more than the last 100 years, Burns, the first in time of the four, is the one who at this moment holds the first place also in the hearts of the great mass of Scotsmen. (Cheers.) I suppose that if we all set to work to account for this phenomenon, we should find that like most other phenomena more than one cause contributes to it. It seems to me, indeed, that not only does Robert Burns hold a peculiar and unique position in the minds of Scotsmen, and among

Scotsmen of letters, but that he holds a unique position, so far as I understand the matter, if we survey the whole field of modern literature, for I know no other case—I do not speak dogmatically upon the point—I don't recall any other case in which we can say with the same confidence that a poet has occupied a place, and a great place in universal literature, and that he is also the daily companion of hundreds of thousands of men and women who cannot be described as belonging to a class who make an occupation of literary study. (Cheers.) I imagine that this unique fact, if unique fact it be, is in part due to the circumstance that Burns dealt so largely with those great elementary feelings, passions, and experiences which are common to every human being, whether he be literary or whether he be not literary, whatever his occupation in life may be, whatever be the labours which engross his time. For his best poems after all—not all his poems, but the bulk of his best poems—deal with such things as love and friendship, the joys of family life, the sorrows of parting—all things which come within the circle of our daily experience. And he dealt with them simply as they are, in a manner which comes home to every man and every woman, which readily falls in with, which readily echoes their own intimate sense of reality, which speaks to them, therefore, in tones of sympathy and of consolation, and which is present with them in all the experiences of their daily life. (Cheers.) And while this is the character of the subjects of which Burns treated, he treated them at a time and in a manner which gives him an absolutely unique position in the development of British literature, for he was unconscious of his mission, he was unconscious of the great work which he was to initiate and foreshadow. (Cheers.) He was the first of those great revolutionary writers—revolutionary, I mean, in the literary sense of the word—who made the early years of the present century so rich in instruction and so rich in genius. (Cheers.) He was the precursor of Wordsworth and Scott; of Byron, Shelley, and Keats; but while he was their precursor, while he heralded this great change in the literary fashions of his country, he spoke in tones which have deeply sunk into the popular mind, which appeal to people to whom the names of Wordsworth and Shelley, or Byron and Keats, are names,

but little else. I suppose I ought to add in estimating this double quality of Burns's fame—I mean the popular quality and universal literary quality—I suppose I must enumerate, I must mention one fact which is obvious enough, but which has doubtless had its influence—namely, that he wrote in our Scotch vernacular. (Cheers.) Now, it is necessary in a poet who is to occupy the position which Burns occupied among his countrymen, it is necessary that he should speak the language of his countrymen; it is necessary that every man should feel not that he is reading a mere literary construction, but that the words which the poet uses are familiar words which he immediately understands, and which carry with them a wealth of association without which poetry is but a vague and empty sound. But the misfortune of popular poets has often been that, while they spoke the vernacular of their country, this vernacular was so restricted in its area that the great literary heart, that the great literary world which is confined to no country and to no people were incapable of appreciating what he said, except through the imperfect medium of translation, and, as we all know, translation, however admirable, and however excellent, and however painstaking, never has, never can, and never will preserve the inmost life and essence of the work of art with which it deals. (Applause.) But the fate of Robert Burns was happier than the fate of those of whom I speak, for though he spoke and wrote in our Scotch vernacular, that vernacular is itself but a form of the great language which is now the birth-tongue of more people born into the world than any other literary language whatever. (Cheers.) But while appealing, therefore, as only one writing the Scotch vernacular could appeal to the mind and feelings of Scotsmen, the great mass of the English-speaking world do not feel towards him as a foreigner must feel towards a language which he has not spoken from his youth. Rather do they feel, though here and there there may be words which are strange to them, that the language is after all the language of their own childhood, and they can cherish Robert Burns as a poet of their own language, a poet speaking their own tongue. (Cheers.) One other cause may perhaps have done something to add to the universal character and world-wide fame which our poet enjoys, and seems likely in ever-increasing measure to

enjoy in the future. That cause is that in every part of the world you will find Scotsmen, and that wherever you do find Scotsmen you will find people who are making their presence felt in the communities in which they live. And wherever you find a Scotsman you will, I am glad to think, also find people who are by no means prepared to allow a careless or unthinking world to forget the glories of their native land. (Cheers) Therefore it is that the fame of Burns has spread wherever Scotsmen have spread, and that there is a kind and degree of worship paid to his genius such as I believe is paid to the genius of no other poet of any kind or of any country. (Cheers) Mr. Provost, I fear that in these observations I may seem at all events to have travelled somewhat far from the immediate occasion on which I have the honour of addressing you. But, after all, that is not the case, for as your youngest burgess, as one who values the privileges which you have in no stinted measure just conferred upon me, I feel that not the least of these privileges, as you yourself have said, is that I may feel myself a citizen of this town so intimately associated with great events in Scottish history in general, and in particular with the life of Robert Burns. (Loud cheers.) One of the greatest possessions of any community is the memory of its great men. And much as I admire the vigorous life of your community, and great as I feel the privilege of being a citizen of Dumfries, that privilege is enhanced in my eyes, as I believe it to be in the eyes of everyone whom I am now addressing, by the memory of the distinguished men who have been admitted before me into these privileges. May the prosperity of your burgh, Mr. Provost, go on ever increasing like the fame of the greatest of its sons, and may Dumfries be associated in the future as it has been in the past with the names of men who have rendered Scotland illustrious, and may there be added in the future to the long and brilliant roll of your burgesses many a name as yet unknown, but which our children and our children's children may revere as ornaments of their country and as pillars of the State. (Cheers.) I beg earnestly and from my heart to thank you both for the honour which you have this day conferred upon me, and not less for the manner in which it has been conferred. (Loud cheers.)

Sir ROBERT T. REID, M.P., then proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman. They were all proud to add to their burgess-

roll, he said, a lady whose good deeds and the spirit which inspired them were so well known to the people, and they were also always, without exception, most happy to welcome to Dumfries and to the highest honour which Dumfries could offer a distinguished statesman, who knew not only how to earn the affection of his followers—(cheers)—but also the respect of his opponents—(renewed cheers)—because there were none of them who were indifferent to the qualities of courage, of sincerity, and unselfishness which had at all times distinguished Mr. Balfour's career. (Cheers.)

The Provost acknowledged, and the audience dispersed, an instrumental band which had been in attendance meanwhile playing "God Save the Queen."



BURNS'S EXCISE DUTIES AND EMOLUMENTS.

IN the end of last century the following were subject to Excise duties:—Auctions, bricks and tiles, beer, candles, coaches, cocoa-nuts, coffee, cyder, perry, verjuice, glass, hops, hides and skins, malt, mead or Metheglin, paper, pepper, printed calico and silk goods, soap, British spirits, foreign spirits, starch, salt, stone bottles, sweets, tea, tobacco and snuff, wine, and wire. The duty upon these articles was, in nearly every case, charged during the manufacture, and the surveillance of the processes entailed upon the officer frequent visits by day and night, on Sunday and Saturday. For example, soap-boilers were surveyed every four hours, candle-makers every six hours, and even brick-makers had some times to be surveyed twice a day. Each article had several rates of duty. Tanners had to pay fourteen different rates, per lb., per skin, and per dozen skins, according to the kind of hide; and even hare and rabbit skins were not allowed to escape. There were seventy-eight rates of paper duty according to size, kind, and quality, and other similar instances could be given. Of course, no single Excise officer had all these manufactures in his station; but he generally had a number of them, and he was never allowed to forget his responsibility with regard to them all. He was expected to detect within the bounds of the district allotted to him every article upon which the king's dues had not been paid.

The great number and character of these articles are to the Inland Revenue officer of the present day suggestive of complicated and vexatious regulations: and when our modern official contemplates this list, he must confess that his own lines have fallen in pleasant places, compared with those of his last century prototype.

In those days a tax was levied on almost every article in daily use in the household, and the following will illustrate the straits to which our ancestors were sometimes put in this respect. A progenitor of the writer was tenant of the farm of Drumbeg, in Kirkoswald parish, and was particular in all his observances, civil and religious. Chalmers, in his *Caledonia*,

says of Kirkoswald—"There were never any seceders in this parish till 1790, when one family came from Beith of the Burgher persuasion." Robert Wilson, Drumbeg, was the patriarch of this family of Burghers. He was a strict disciplinarian, and all unlawful occupations, like cheating the Excise, were forbidden; but there was a sad falling off in his own family. Without his knowledge one of them had made a small quantity of malt, which was sent to the neighbouring kiln to be dried. It had just been sent home by the miller when the latter, seeing the supervisor and officer coming, sent a child to the farm to give warning, but the officials intercepted the messenger, who innocently let out the secret. They, no doubt, thought the farm stock better value than the miller's chattels, for they at once set off running to the farmhouse, and caught Martha Wilson coming down a ladder from one of the outhouses. Recognising them, she with great deliberation walked past them to the house, and, while they were searching the barns and lofts, she securely concealed the malt. Martha then suddenly recollected the smuggled salt in the kitchen. This she had time to empty into a pot on the fire, but all the time the officers were there her face reflected a guilty conscience, for she could not get out of her mind the home-made candles that had never paid duty, and were lying on a shelf in full view. In this year, 1814, an impoverished Government ordained that candles made in country places for the maker's own use should pay duty; so, here we find in an out-of-the-way country farmhouse three articles in daily consumption which the farmer's family had made duty free without his knowledge, and for which he might have been made to pay sweetly had it not been for the dexterity and ready wit of her daughter. Aunt Martha, when advanced in years, used to relate with great glee how she had outwitted her own father and the gaugers at the same time.

BOOKS OF INSTRUCTIONS.

In 1797, Collector James Huie published the first edition of *An Abridgement of all the Statutes now in Force Relative to the Revenue of the Excise in Great Britain*. This "abridgement," consisting of about nine hundred octavo pages, was the earliest attempt to place the Excise statutes in a comprehensive form, and the Board admitted the great utility of Mr. Huie's labours

by purchasing copies for the use of every officer in the country. Up till this period an excise officer had to extract the knowledge necessary for his guidance from fragmentary instructions and general orders, and it was no mean achievement for a clever officer to have mastered their contents in a lifetime. In addition to the growing duties already referred to, there were payable many licenses, and the advent of Huie's *Abridgement* must have marked the dawn of a new era to all ranks of the distracted service. The Poet had not the good fortune to see that day, and he had to obtain his Excise knowledge by plodding through Acts of Parliament, general letters, and memoranda.

EXCISE STORIES.

Several stories have come down to us which were originally related as redounding to Burns's credit, but upon which some recent critics have founded charges to his dishonour :—

Professor Gillespie, of St. Andrews, when at Thornhill on a fair day in 1793, saw Burns call hurriedly at the door of a poor woman, named Kate Watson, who, it was understood, was doing a little business on her own account *for the day*. With a nod and a movement of the forefinger, Burns brought her to the door. "Kate," said he, "are ye mad? The supervisor and I will be in on ye in half-an-hour. Guid-bye t' ye at present," and with that he disappeared in the crowd. On another occasion, a woman—Jean Dunn, of Kirkpatrick, who had been brewing some beer *duty free for the fair*—observed Burns and another officer named Robinson coming towards her house. Jean slipped out at the back door, and left her servant and her young daughter to face the gaugers. "Has there been any brewing for the fair here to-day?" "Oh, no, sirs, we hae nae license for that," replied the servant lass. "That's no' true," exclaimed the wee lassie, "the muckle kist is fu' o' the bottles o' yill that ma mither sat up a' nicht brewin' for the fair." "We are in a hurry just now," said Burns, "but when we return from the fair we will examine the muckle black kist. Come along, Robinson."

Letters have appeared in *Scotch* newspapers condemning the Poet for his action in these cases, and saying he was false to the interests of the revenue he had sworn to uphold when he accepted the King's Commission. It is hard to have to deal with such misconceptions so long after the event, but lies are not like rolling stones—they gather as they go, and the sooner their course is stopped the better.

Until the year 1880, anyone who liked could brew beer for private use without paying either license money or growing duty, and from the time of Charles II. any person was at liberty

to brew beer, without a license, for sale at fairs in Scotland, but before selling it the proper duty had to be paid. In Burns's time this was:—

Small Beer, - 2/ per barrel of 12 galls. Scotch.

Twopenny Ale, 4/2 ,, ,,

Strong Ale, - 10/ ,, ,,

Twelve gallons Scotch were equivalent to 36 gallons English, and the twopenny ale was preserved for Scotchmen, along with the Solemn League and Covenant and other privileges, by the Act of Union, in 1707. In this famous Act of Queen Anne, it was agreed that ale sold in Scotland at 2d a pint Scotch should in all time coming pay no higher duty than 2/ per gallon—a privilege which we have not thought worth retaining, although, as recorded in “Tam o’ Shanter,” “Tippeny” was no teetotal beverage. Persons who brewed for sale at fairs were called bye-brewers, as distinguished from common brewers, and, by a General Order of 25th October, 1740, they were required to give notice of their intention to sell beer at a fair. The officers *were instructed to insist* upon their paying the duty for the beer they intended to retail before they sold any part of it, and to acquaint them that if they sold without having first paid the duty, or sold more than they had first paid duty for, they would be prosecuted. Another curious feature of those times was that a license was not required for “alehouses, etc., situated upon, or near, to the King’s Military Roads in Scotland, nor in any Royal Burgh, nor within the Burghs of Dunblain, Muthil, Crief, Dunkeld, or within one mile thereof.” This provision was repealed in 1801; but the permission to brew beer for sale “in booths and other places at the time and place for holding fairs” was still continued.

In 1820, there being reason to believe that beer was being sold at wakes, revels, and other *merry-makings*, by unlicensed persons, under the idea that the exemption for fairs extended to such meetings, the Commissioners warned all such persons that by doing so they incurred a penalty of £50. The privilege of brewing for fairs was not repealed till 1862.

In the light of this information, let us now examine the two incidents quoted, which must have taken place before August, 1790, and when the Poet was officer of Dumfries 1st Itinerancy. He had ridden from Dumfries, a distance of fifteen miles,

surveying traders *en route* at such places as Holywood, Auld-girth, Closeburn, etc., arriving at Thornhill before the fair commenced. Having been in charge of this station for some time, he knew all the bye-brewers in the place, and went round them to see who had been brewing, and to charge them with the proper duty. The supervisor would attend later to receive payment. Kate Watson and Jean Dunn were probably well known as old offenders, and easily discovering that they had been brewing beer, he knew it was from no philanthropic motive, and he warned them of the consequences. He had no proof of sale, and in the case of such poor persons his instructions were to prevent evasion of the law; and as a conscientious, energetic officer, he did his duty effectually, and at the same mercifully, by these domiciliary visits on the morning of the fair.

SMUGGLING.

The question of smuggling had an important bearing on the life of an Excise officer in the end of last century; and the Executive were often unable to cope with the daring and organised bands of illegal traders, as the body of the people sympathised with the latter. In fact, smuggling became a lucrative, and, in the end, an over-crowded profession, in which all classes of the community were ready to engage, and in which fortunes were often made and lost.

Ferintosh Smuggling.—Between 1690 and 1786 there existed the famous Ferintosh monopoly, by which Forbes, of Culloden, in return for political services rendered against the Royal house of Stuart, was permitted to distil whisky, duty-free, on his estate on the Black Isle.* “His brewery of *aqua vite*, having been burnt down during his absence in Holland, on his return, Forbes, by supplication to the Estates of Parliament, was relieved by an old Scotch statute for any levie in all time coming upon spirits distilled from the lands of Ferintosh.” At the time this relief was granted, it did not mean very much, when the duty was $\frac{1}{2}$ d per gallon; but in 1690, through the influence of the other distillers, a sum of 400 merks Scots (£22) was annually exacted from Forbes for the privilege, which was to have been free for all time. After the Union of the Parliaments, complaints were frequently made by the regular distillers, and towards the end of the 18th century,

* *Owen's Plain Papers.*

when the duty had increased to 3s 11¼d per gallon, an Act was passed (24 Geo. III. (sess. 2) c. 46) empowering the Treasury to agree with Arthur Forbes upon a compensation to be made to him in lieu of the exemption. This took effect in 1786, when he was paid £21,500 for relinquishing a privilege which was alleged to have yielded him £20,000 a year.

Ferintosh estate is situated in the parish of Urquhart and County of Nairn. It lies along the shores of the Firth of Cromarty, and is about 9 square miles in extent. The effect of this privilege seems to have been that in process of time the Forbes estate in the Black Isle became covered with distilleries, and ultimately, as the duty became higher, there was more *aqua vite* produced from the corn crops of Ferintosh than from all the rest of Scotland. Not only was the real Ferintosh duty free, but large quantities, made illegally in other places, were imported into the district, to be subsequently exported as the genuine make of Duncan Forbes; while all over the north illicit distillers endeavoured to pass their produce southward by branding it *Ferintosh*. An officer has been known to capture, in a single night, a dozen horses, each laden with two ankers of the poteen; and when the whole seizure—horses, harness, and whisky—had been sold, the officer would receive half the proceeds. Sometimes officers employed two or three men to assist them in this part of their business, trusting to be recouped afterwards from the proceeds of the seizures.

As soon as the privilege was withdrawn, a curious object lesson was to be seen at Ferintosh, where the whole population, abnormally swollen by the operation of the whisky monopoly, was instantly affected by its abolition. Hundreds of men and women, thoroughly instructed in the art of distillation, emigrated with all their technical knowledge to other parts of the Highlands, and each party of emigrants, doubtless, became the forebears of a race of smugglers which troubled the Board of Excise for generations.

In the year following the exodus, 1787, there were 29 licensed distilleries at work in Ferintosh, which, in process of time, all disappeared; but the "Real Ferintosh" is not forgotten in the Highlands, and the old rhyme may be still heard—

" In Campbeltown my love was born,
Her mither in Glen Turrit;
But Ferintosh is the lass for me,
For she's the strongest spirit."

Highland Line and Border Smuggling.—Towards the end of the eighteenth century the spirit duty had been largely increased, but smuggling had increased in a greater ratio, and soon a more objectionable system than Ferintosh was introduced. By 25 Geo. III., c. 22, Scotland was divided into two parts, and in the northern portion a much smaller duty was exacted. The line of division is thus described in Section 10—“A line beginning at the Boat of Balloch, where Loch Lomond runs into the River Leven, and proceeding along the great military road from thence by Bucklivie to the town of Stirling, and from thence along the great road called Hillfoot Road on the south side of the Ochell Hills till it meets with the great road from Kinross to Perth, and along the same till it comes to the Bridge of Earn, and along the Water of Earn till its junction with the River Tay, and along that river till it joins the German Ocean.”

The position of this line was several times altered by subsequent Acts. By 3 Geo. III., c. 69, it began at Boat of Balloch, and stretched, *via* Bucklivie, Thornhill, Dumblane, Auchterarder, Perth, Kinclavin, Blairgowrie Alyth, Kerrymuir, along the base of the Grampians to Aberdeen. By 37 Geo. III., c. 102, it began at Crinan, and went by Loch Gilpin, Inveraray, Arrochar, Tarbet, north of Ben Lomond, Callendar of Monteith, Crieff, Amblere, Inver, Dunkeld, Fettercairn, Cuttie's Hillock, Kincardine O'Neal, Clatt, Huntley, Keith, Fochabers, Elgin, Forres, to Findhorn. Another Act created an intermediate district, where different regulations existed. Thus there were three rates of duty in Great Britain—the lowest rate in the north, the medium rate in the Lowlands, and the highest rate in England. In these differential duties lay the inducement to run *aqua vita* across the Highland line, and across the English Border, escaping payment of the higher duty exigible to the south of these divisions. A large force of Revenue officers was employed in suppressing smuggling along these lines, and it was when engaged in this duty near Aberfeldy in 1810 that Joseph Train was captured by a band of smugglers, and kept prisoner till nightfall. Mr. Train strongly advocated the abolition of the Highland line, which was effected in 1816.

In 1787 the method of charging the duty was also altered. Previously the whisky duty had been at a fixed rate per gallon

made, but it was changed in that year to a fixed rate per gallon of still content. It immediately became an object for the regular distiller to have his stills as small as possible, and to fill them as often as possible. They also soon learned to alter them from a spherical form to flat discs, which latter presented a great surface to a quick fire, and rapidly extracted the alcohol. These manœuvres in the end gave rise to a Board's order to the effect that no still was to be charged more than eight times in twenty-four hours. This method of collecting the whisky duty prevailed for years, and it was ultimately as high as £64 16s 4d per gallon of still content in the lowlands and £3 in the Highlands.

Foreign Contraband Smuggling.—At the same time our coasts were infested by daring crews of the Dirk Hatteraick class engaged in the foreign contraband traffic, and the combined strength of the Customs and Excise being unable to cope with the evil, military and naval forces were frequently called to their assistance.

In 1781, the Commissioners of Excise admitted “that the evil practice of smuggling has increased of late to a pitch of enormity, and been carried on with a force and violence almost without example in former times, in so much that the revenue officers can no longer do their duty.”

Paterson, in his *History of Ayrshire*, says:—“Smuggling of tea, tobacco, and brandy was carried on formerly. Large vessels, then called Buckers, lugger-rigged, carrying twenty, and some thirty, guns, were in the habit of landing their cargoes in the Bay of Ballantrae, while a hundred Lintowers, some of them armed with cutlass and pistol, might have been seen waiting, with their horses ready to receive them, to convey the goods by unfrequented paths through the country, and even to Glasgow and Edinburgh. Many secret holes, receptacles for contraband articles still exist, in the formation of which much skill and cunning is shown. The old kirk itself, we are informed, contained one of the best. Every occupation was neglected to engage in this demoralising traffic. From a letter lately found, it appears that the ruling elder was the chief actor and the centre of a very extensive smuggling body on the coast.” There were forty-two armed Revenue cutters in the service of the customs, and fourteen attached to the Excise

department, entirely engaged in the suppression of this traffic. These government cruisers were swift sailers, manned by crews of between twenty and thirty men of a superior class, who were all members of H.M. service, and entitled to pensions on retirement. They were gradually paid off and sold, and, in 1856 (19 and 20 Viet., cap. 83), the remaining boats were handed over to the control of the Admiralty, the officers and men being either pensioned or provided for in the public service. It is an interesting fact that Highland Mary's father, Archibald Campbell, was one of these cuttersmen, but he would seem to have left the service early, having lost the sight of one of his eyes.

Smuggling in Kirkoswald.—Paterson's description of Ballantrae was equally applicable to Kirkoswald, which stretches for miles along the shore on both sides of Turnberry Point. Numerous chambers for 'concealing contraband' have been found in the latter parish, and these were generally constructed in the centre of the service roads to the farms, well built, covered with large flags, and finished off with road metal. One was discovered at Balkenna by the Martha Wilson already mentioned falling into it and hurting herself on her way to school. Whenever it was considered safe the goods were taken out of the hiding places, and conveyed on horse-back by circuitous saddle tracks through the hills to Edinburgh—the smugglers striking off the main road somewhere between Girvan and Ayr. The country folk used to talk of the "Battle of Howshean Moss," between a party of smugglers and the Revenue men, at which firearms were used—one horse at least having been shot dead. Brakenridge, then tenant in Drumbeg, and Ferguson, in Balkenna (a cousin of Tam o' Shanter), were involved in the fray, and subsequently tried in the High Court of Justiciary for their share in it. There occurs a note in Chalmers's *Caledonia*, and, to be suggested by the parish minister, it contains a rather curious theory—"It is stated that the inhabitants of Kirkoswald, owing to the prevalence of smuggling, attained a measure of refinement in the manner of living and dress earlier than in the neighbouring parishes."

Burns himself tells us that he came into close contact with smugglers and their ways during his residence at Kirkoswald,

when seventeen years old. While he attended the school of Hugh Rogers to learn mathematics, he lodged with his uncle, Brown, at Ballochneil Farm, which was not far from Turnberry, Drumbeg, Balkenna, and Shanter. The farmers mostly kept boats, apparently for fishing, but really to help in landing foreign contraband. It seems that Douglas Graham, Shanter, called his boat the *Tam o' Shanter*. Burns was therefore in the very focus of the smuggling traffic as carried on by the Carrick band, which no doubt numbered among its members many friends and relatives of the Poet; and in these times no one could blame him if his warm young sympathies, and, perhaps, active help were granted to the law-breakers. It is also certain that the experience so gained did him in good stead, when it afterwards became his duty to carry out the very laws which formerly he had perhaps broken.

“TAM O' SHANTER” AS A DRAMA.

This parish is teeming with Burnsiana, and it may be interesting here to relate that Robert and Sarah Graham, son and daughter of Tam o' Shanter, lived for many years at Clachantin. In 1832, the year of the great visitation of cholera to this country, the good folks of Glasgow were so scared by its approach that the theatres and other places of amusement were deserted and closed. Many actors and actresses were thrown out of work, and, starving for want of the necessities of life, they went to the country districts, where they were sure of a little sympathy. A party of these strolling-players took up their quarters at Ballyhilly Barn, Kirkoswald, and for three nights performed “Tam o' Shanter” and “The Gentle Shepherd” to crowded houses. Robert Graham, Clachantin, son of the veritable Tam, honoured the performances with his patronage. An eye witness says that the plays were highly appreciated, notwithstanding the realistic nature of the scenery and the brevity of the witches' ball dresses.

EMOLUMENTS.

In Burns's day, and for long afterwards, the detecting officer was entitled not only to one-half of all fines imposed in court, but also to one-half of the produce of the seizures. Still further, officers were entitled to receive important perquisites upon seizures which were ordered to be destroyed, as 2/6 a lb. on tea seized and afterwards destroyed, 22/7 for a still head and

worm, £50 for apprehending a smuggler, etc. In connection with fines in court, the law expenses, and the expenses of "dining" the magistrates, clerks, and witnesses fell to be deducted before the officers' half was calculated, and this frequently amounted to a considerable sum. The hearing of Excise cases was sometimes of greater local interest than the criminal assizes, from the number of interested persons present (magistrates, lawyers, smugglers, witnesses, Excise officers, etc.), and the length of time consumed over them. The Collector of Excise entertained magistrates, clerks, and witnesses to dinner, and such occasions were not calculated to bring up the younger men in sober habits. Some years ago there was extant in the Elgin Excise Office a hotel bill, amounting to over £29, for dining the Justices at a three days' court at Huntly. When the hearings were all over, it was found that the total amount of fines was not enough to cover the expenses. On hearing of the dilemma, one of the Justices jumped up, saying, "I'll soon make that all right." He went out into the streets, which were full of smugglers. "Hallo! John Fraser; come here. There was a mistake made about your fine; it should have been £1 more. Give me the £1." In this way, going from one to another, he soon collected more than enough for all purposes.

There is every reason to believe that Burns was very successful in dealing with fraudulent traders, or as the Closeburn ostler said, "He was no better than any other gauger." He himself informs us that one day in court the amount of fines in his station was between £50 and £60, and on another occasion we hear of him seizing a large quantity of tobacco. Many officers derived the most important part of their income from the proceeds of seizures. In a particular year the king's share of seizures was known to amount to £12,400, and the officers being entitled to a similar amount, the share of each individual may be variously estimated from £20 to £120 per man per annum. Two instances, at least, are recorded when Scotch spirits to the value of £5000 were seized; and, although such great prizes were rare, yet comfortable fortunes have been accumulated in this way; and an officer was not in those days considered worth his salt unless he could thus materially increase his income. The situation of Dumfries, then really a seaport, and possessing the key to Galloway in the shape of the

bridge over the Nith, must have rendered Burns's position extremely favourable for this class of work, both in connection with Border smuggling and foreign contraband. In a letter dated 4th September, 1790, the Poet apprises Mr. Graham that he had just convicted a body of smugglers, and in the same letter he intimates that he intends to abandon his farm and to devote himself exclusively to the business of Excise. He had found out by this time that the conviction of smugglers was a better paying business than farming.

There is on record an account of an important detection of fraud by a Dumfries maltster, from which Burns must have derived a large return. He was the leading actor in the capture of the brig *Rosamund* on the 27th February, 1792, and as both vessel and cargo were subsequently sold by auction, his share in the prize money must have been considerable.

To anyone who carefully considers all these circumstances, it must be evident that, although the actual salary may never have exceeded £70 a year, yet the gross emoluments of his office must have come nearer £200.

In addition to a sound judgment, Burns's calling demanded constant watchfulness and care, for a slight slip might be followed by disaster to himself and family. It has been shown that he performed his duties with ability and faithfulness,* and that few officers of his time had a better official record. He fully deserved and expected promotion, and with the wants of an increasing family to spur him on, he very properly devoted his chief energies to the public service. There is no doubt that he took great personal interest in these duties, which brought him into daily contact with all classes of the people. And albeit the consciences of his contemporaries might cause the Exciseman to be distrusted, yet they could not but do homage to the man, the poet, the reformer, and the patriot. In these last capacities Burns lived in a separate and a higher sphere; where the fires of his genius shone conspicuous, but all the sooner hastened the early decay. Alongside his humble Excise life there were being enacted in the great world scenes more exciting and momentous than had ever before been known. The history of that time has been written, the crimes, the blunders, and the heroism; but our

*Mr. John Sinton's *Burns: Excise Officer and Poet*. 4th Edition.

forefathers did not discuss the events of 100 years ago as history. The awful forces were ever present to them, and there was no one prophet enough to say when and where they would burst out next. Burns lived all through this, felt about this, and wrote about this. From his pen came some of the most thrilling odes that ever stirred a nation to arms ; and in these troublous times he stands out in bold relief as the champion of the rights of man. And with all this nobility of soul there appears the other side of the picture. His prosaic Excise duties could not be made less onerous for him. The Commissioners, instigated by the Exchequer, were engaged in a war of extermination against the illicit trader, and dared not relax their discipline in favour of anyone. There was to be no release for Burns but the grave.

An attempt has been made in this paper to describe the general conditions of his Excise life, and it is hoped that the facts adduced may help to throw some light upon the subject. The reader may thus be enabled, in estimating his work as a Poet during his later years, to make due allowance for the varied and distracting nature of the calls and duties which his vocation in life imposed upon him.

R. W. MACFADZEAN.

Since the foregoing was written we have received the following corroboration of our remarks upon smuggling.

Mr. John Halley, Inland Revenue, Somerset House, has favoured us with the following comparison, for the years 1792 and 1822, of the more prominent duties received in Scotland. They are taken from a Return presented to the House of Commons in May, 1823.

	Amount of Duties.	
	1792.	1822.
Beer and Ale - - - -	£55,078	£87,217
Candles - - - -	16,804	19,704
Cocoa Nuts and Coffee - -	443	16,785
Hides and Skins - - - -	19,618	51,045
Licences - - - -	10,813	90,581
Malt - - - -	74,960	199,698
Printed Goods - - - -	78,002	246,278
Soap - - - -	43,969	122,306
Spirits, Foreign - - - -	56,520	124,112
Do. British - - - -	52,470	740,709
Tobacco - - - -	31,374	301,428
Wine - - - -	30,990	68,716

Mr. Halley is a competent authority on such subjects, and believes that these figures prove the extent to which smuggling was carried on in 1792. The population of Scotland increased 30 per cent from 1801 to 1821, and about 40 per cent would represent a normal increase in the years specified, if there had been no alteration in the rates of duty. Variations of rates did occur, but are not of sufficient consequence to influence an estimate derived from these figures. The efforts of the authorities to suppress smuggling were crowned with success, for the whisky duty was 14 times, and the tobacco duty 10 times greater in 1822 than in 1792.

R. W. M.



MAUCHLINE KIRKYARD.

FOR a reliable description of the Auld Kirk and Kirkyard of Mauchline, I would refer the reader to the first of the first series of lectures delivered by the late Rev. Dr. Edgar, which were published by Alex. Gardner, of Paisley, in 1885. The purpose of this article is the preservation of more detailed information, which may be lost, and which may be of some value to those who take an interest in the persons with whom our National Bard was acquainted during the culminating period of his career at Mossgiel. With this object in view, I submit illustrations founded on pen-and-ink sketches, which were specially prepared for this article by my kinsman, Mr. David Dunn, of Galston, and which, in my opinion, well merit preservation in the pages of the *Chronicle*. As the years pass on, the connecting links between the past and present become fewer and fewer, and with the death of old "Sandy Marshall," the Kirkyard of Mauchline may be said to have lost its only accredited historian. As a native of Mauchline, I have often been privileged to listen to the old man's reminiscences, and many a time and oft has he pointed out to me the various spots of interest in the churchyard which nobody could descant upon with more authority than he. He has left no successor. I will therefore endeavour to put his notes on the permanent record, supplemented by whatever original information I myself have been enabled to obtain.

We enter the sacred enclosure by what is called the Back Gate, for which I have a special reverence, for the reason that by that entrance I was, many years ago, carried towards the baptismal font. Let us doff our cap, for we are on sacred ground. While our present object is to indicate the resting places of those connected with the Poet, yet the ashes of not a few who fought our country's battles repose within the churchyard walls, and the corpse of a covenanting hero (James Smith) was also interred within the sacred precincts.

But Burns is all-important, and the first question likely to be asked by a student of his life's history would be one bearing on the locality of the Armour's burying-place, for it was there the Poet's twin children

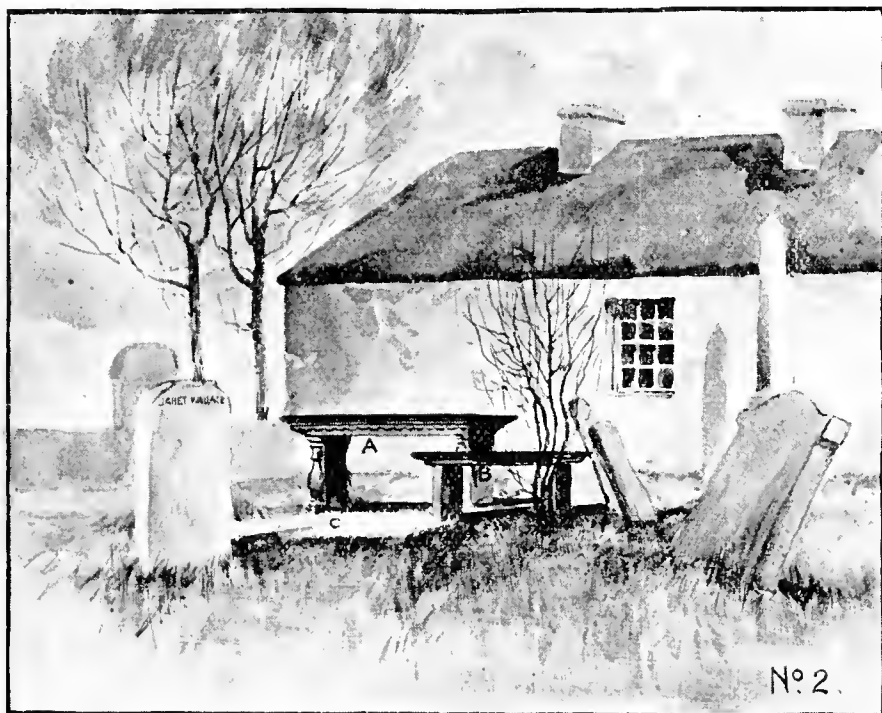
were buried, and also his daughter, Elizabeth Riddell. The latter was born in Dumfries on 21st November, 1793, according to the inscription on the flat stone within the tripart enclosure, and died at Mauchline in the autumn of 1795. We learn from Scott Douglas that this was the Poet's only daughter and favourite child, and it can be inferred from a letter to Mrs. Dunlop, dated 31st January, 1796, that he was not present at the interment of her remains. For a photogravure of this enclosure I refer the reader to page 79 of the *Burns Chronicle* for 1896. Before passing from this spot, we may remark that it is very probably the resting-place of Adam, Jean's brother, the hero of "Adam Armour's Prayer," and also of the Poet's youngest brother, John, who died at the age of fourteen. The *locale* of this spot is to the north side of the church, and quite close to the walk, which we now propose to follow. The cross (X) in number I. of the sketches



indicates the place where the mortal remains of Andrew Noble, the parish schoolmaster in Burns's time, were interred. The stone does not bear his name, but only those of his two daughters and son, and the inscription is in Greek and Latin, nothing unusual in those days of the old parish school and schoolmaster. The Greek inscription enunciates the common

truism—"The best things are laid up for us in heaven." The humorous epitaph beginning "Lament him, Mauchline husbands a'," which is, by many Burns editors, set down as connected with Burns's crony, James Smith, is, according to the most reliable local tradition, backed by the emphatic and oft-repeated assertion of "auld Sandy," a sort of "Court of Equity" indictment against the man whose name is engraved on this unostentatious flat stone.

Letter A on the same drawing gives the *locale* of the memorial stone of "Daddy Auld." The inscription is a beautiful example of tombstone decoration at the beginning of the present century, and was executed, I understand, by an ancestor of our respected townsman, Mr. William Smith, box manufacturer. "Daddy Auld" died 12th December, 1791, in the fiftieth year of his ministry, and eighty-first of his age.



Letter A in drawing No. II shows the form of this memorial stone. Letter B, in same drawing, indicates the last resting-place of John Richmond, the close friend and fellow-lodger of Burns when in Edinburgh. He died in 1846, aged 81. Letter C marks the stone covering the place of rest of the remains of one of Burns's characters, mentioned in "Old Church Life in Scotland," first series, p. 334, and who is

supposed to be the person referred to in a famous surreptitious effusion of the Poet, which is too warm in colour to be included in its entirety in any popular edition of his works. He was an elder in the church, and, as reported by local tradition, was the informant to Jean's family of her connection with the Poet. He was married to the mother of James Smith, "the sleest, pawky thief."

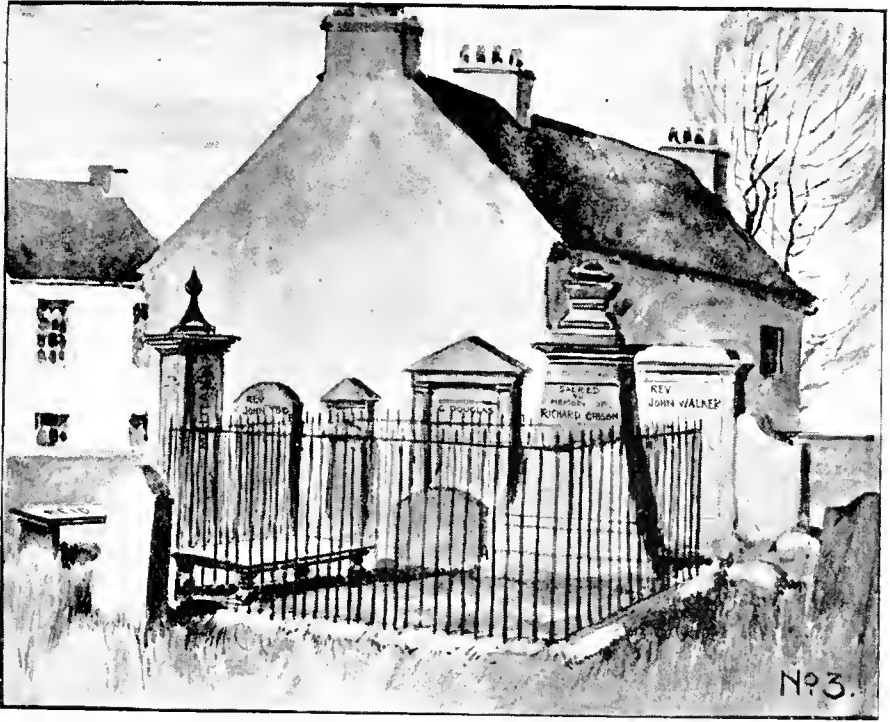
Before passing to the next corner, which might very appropriately be called the "Minister's Corner," the resting-place of the Alexander family of Ballochmyle, should be noted. The heroine of the famous "Bonie Lass of Ballochmyle" is not buried here, but situated at the western angle of the enclosure, which is bounded by a stone wall capped with a plain substantial railing, stands a grey stone, in which is inserted a marble slab, which bears the following inscription:—

HERE LIES THE BODY OF
JAMES WHITEFOORD.
SON OF
SIR JOHN WHITEFOORD,
BARONET,
WHO DIED SEPTEMBER 18TH, 1773,
AGED ONE YEAR.

He was the brother of Maria,
Who sang through faded groves:
And to whom the wild wood's echoes rang—
Farewell the braes of Ballochmyle.

To the left of this stone, and a few paces nearer the western boundary wall of the churchyard, is a slab marking the last resting-place of James Bryen, mentioned in the Poet's last letter to John Richmond—the "Godly Bryen" and "Auld Whitreck" of the "Court of Equity." Passing thence, we reach the point from which the third sketch is taken, and which we have called the "Minister's Corner," though its occupants were not exclusively connected with the cloth. Here lie the remains of the Reverend Mr. William Maitland, who taught his flock in Mauchline with a sincere heart for forty-four years, and died October 27th, 1739. He was the predecessor of Daddy Auld. Here also repose the bodies of Reid and Tod, the successors of the immortal "Daddy" in the cure of the parish. Of Tod it should be noted that his wife was Williamina Hamilton, daughter of Gavin Hamilton, her mother being a Kennedy of Daljarock, and sister to

Margaret Kennedy of "Ye Banks and Braes o' Bonie Doon." The remains of the Rev. John Walker, a minister of the associate congregation of Mauchline, also lie here, as well as those of his successor, the Rev. David Thomas,



both in proximity to the memorial stone of the famous "Daddy." But to the Burns enthusiast the plot of ground enclosed by the railing is of the most engrossing importance, for here is interred the earthly tabernacle of "Racer Jess," and in the same space are deposited the corpses of George Gibson and his spouse, Agnes Ronald (Poosie Nancy), who have been immortalised in connection with "The Jolly Beggars."

Leaving this corner, we now take our stand almost at the south entrance to the church. The buttress in sketch IV. approximately indicates the important point we have in view. The enclosure A marks the burial-place of the bosom friend of the Poet, Gavin Hamilton. There is no monument here, and we are tempted to ask the reason why. By request, tradition asserts. This may be true, but it is no answer to our question. B marks the spot where

"Holy Willie's sair-worn clay
Takes up its last abode."

“Near by, to the south,” says Ainslie, “repose the remains of Nance Tinnock,” and further west, nearer the Minister’s Corner, lie the remains of him, who

. . . “Wi’ rattlin’ tow,
Began to jow and croon.”



C marks the place where the remains of “The Gallant Weaver,” Robert Wilson, a reputed sweetheart of Bonie Jean, were laid at rest many years ago. He went to Paisley, where Jean met him during her temporary estrangement from Burns.

No letter marks the next place of importance, but the name is sufficient for identification.

IN MEMORY OF
 ADJ. JOHN MORRISON;
 ALSO HIS DAUGHTER, MARY—
 THE POET’S BONNIE MARY MORRISON—
 WHO DIED, 29TH JUNE, 1791, AGED 20.*

The sketches, however, by no means exhaust the Kirkyard of Mauchline, for, since they were completed, I have considerably added to my stock of information regarding the inhabitants of Mauchline who knew Burns in the flesh, the memories of

* “Mary Morrison” was composed in 1780. At that date the lady here referred to would be about nine years of age.—[ED.]

whom are fresh in the minds of some old people still living in the district. I have gleaned some interesting particulars regarding James Hamilton, William Patrick, and Laird M'Gaan.

On entering the Kirkyard from Loudoun Street, there stands, the first on the left, a stone on which is inscribed the name Hamilton. While not specifically stating the fact, yet, on the authority of the son of the man interred here, this stone indicates the place of interment of the James Hamilton of whom it is written:—"It is with regret we have this week to record the death of another venerable inhabitant who had seen and spoken to the gifted Ploughman of Mossgiel. Mr. James Hamilton, one of the privileged few, died at his residence,† in New Road, on the evening of Saturday, the 14th inst. Deceased was 84 years of age, and though but a boy when Burns came to this neighbourhood, yet he had vivid recollections of the Poet, and delighted to speak of him and the family. His parents became intimately acquainted with the Poet's family, which gave him an opportunity of being often at Mossgiel; and spoke of having repeatedly "c'ad the pleugh to Robin," and, on one occasion, of being sent with a letter to Jean Armour, with an earnest admonition to give it to no one but herself. Little did anyone at that time think that great homage would ever be paid to the genius of the Ploughman, and as little did the stripling think, as he hurried back to tell of his success in delivering the letter, that after three-quarters of a century he would be borne along the same road, like a conqueror, in a triumphal car of evergreens, carrying a bust of Burns, and taking a prominent part in the great Centenary demonstrations. Of the five contemporaries who were lately living amongst us, only two—James Hamilton and William Patrick—could join in the procession to Mossgiel. Three are now dead, and one was removed to his friends, near Edinburgh, so that the only one now in Mauchline is auld Willie Patrick."

"The deceased Mr. Hamilton was an industrious, well-living man, and, enjoying comparatively good health, kept stepping about till within a few months of his death. He had been engaged on Netherplace Estate about sixty years, and being highly esteemed was treated with great kindness

† The residence is, I may say, the house below the pump—the same house in which "My Nannie, O!" (Agnes Fleming) resided.

by Colonel Hamilton and Major Campbell. Being much respected, there was a large attendance at his funeral, which took place on Tuesday last. Among those present we observed Auld Willie, who is still able to act as *cicerone* to visitors, and being once a servant boy at Mossgiel he could not only point out all the places of note, but relate many interesting particulars about the Poet and his family."

The place where the remains of William Patrick were laid is indicated by the first and second stones on the right of entrance, and almost immediately opposite the resting-place of James Hamilton. The larger tombstone of the two bears the name Henry Wilson, and can easily be distinguished. William Patrick was born in 1776, and died in 1864, aged 88. The reference to him in the article just quoted needs little addition. He was the herd boy at Mossgiel, and occupied the same sleeping apartment as the Poet, whom he often heard revising his compositions in the "wee sma' hours ayont the twal."

Immediately behind these stones, and under the birch tree, we find a stone erected by William Leitch, teacher of drawing, London, in memory of his daughter, Jean, who died at Mauchline in 1831. This was the Leitch who gave lessons in drawing to the Royal Household, and who, for some time previous to going south, painted for the late Andrew Smith. Immediately behind this stone we find three stones, almost of equal height but of different eras. These mark the resting-place of the M'Gaan family, of which "Tootie," or Laird M'Gaan, was a member. Mention is made of him in an effusion of Burns to Gavin Hamilton recommending a boy.

The intention of this article is sufficient excuse for its scrappiness and imperfections, and I beg to conclude with the same invitation as that with which my former article to the *Chronicle* was closed. I will be pleased to answer any Burnsiana query addressed to me in elucidation of this article; or explain *in propria persona* the topography of Mauchline and its Kirkyard to any correspondent or visitor.

JOHN TAYLOR GIBB.

GLENBERVIE. THE FATHERLAND OF BURNS.

BY Burns devotees the whole world over, Ayrshire is universally recognised as the Land of Burns. Ayr and Burns have become convertible terms. By birth Burns belongs to the West of Scotland, by ancestry to the East, whilst Dumfries, the lovely "Queen of the South," claims as her own especial heritage the ashes of the great Minstrel.

No sane person will attempt to sever the bond between the immortal Bard and the district which he has immortalised in song. Any attempt to do so would be resented by the men of the West. But whilst thus fixing their attention on the scenes made classic by his pen, how many of his admirers remember the other "Land of Burns" lying at the base of the Grampians. To the natives of Kincardineshire the "Land of Burns" lies in Glenbervie, the ancestral parish of the family of the Burnesses; as they were then called. The places, indeed, where they lived and worked, have not had the glamour of the Bard's magic spell thrown over them. They have not become world-renowned names like Alloway, Mossiel, Mauchline, Irvine, Ayr, and Doon; but they ought to possess, nevertheless, to all Burns students, a peculiar interest, because they show the hard and sterile country where lived the "forebears" of him whose character partook largely in its independence, honesty, integrity, and manliness of inherited characteristics.

That Burns, in virtue of his ancestry, belongs to Glenbervie, is indeed the outstanding fact in the history of the parish. This fills the natives with a pardonable pride. They feel the same enthusiasm in their connection with the northern "Land of Burns" and its associations, as the natives of Scotland do towards the true Burns country. To give a short account of the connection of the Burnesses with the district is the object of this paper. A fuller account than is here possible, of the general history and characteristics of the parish, has been already given elsewhere, and it may therefore suffice for the present if we undertake, in imagination, a "circular tour"

through the locality in question. By doing so we shall bring under the reader's observation the various homes and haunts of the Burnesses, some of which, at least, the Poet visited in his northern tour.

Glenbervie lies on the north side of the main line of the Caledonian Railway through Scotland, and is something less than twenty-five miles south of Aberdeen, midway between Stonehaven and Laurencekirk. As the name implies, it is watered by the Bervie, which, in its course from the hills to the sea, passes through the parish. For convenience we shall select Stonehaven as our starting-point. The Burnesses still to be found in Stonehaven indicates that one branch of the family settled there. But of this more hereafter. When on his tour the Poet visited his relations in Stonehaven. In his diary he speaks of "Robert Burns, writer in Stonehive, one of those who love fun, a gill, and a punning joke, and have not a bad heart—his wife a sweet, hospitable body, without any affectation of what is called town breeding." The Poet also makes mention, in his diary, of the romantic rock scenery on the coast, which also, to this day, attracts the admiration of the many hundreds who frequent this now popular seaside resort. Leaving the county town, then, we first pass through the beautifully-wooded grounds of Dunnottar. Its "woods, walks, and scenes of beauty" present a pleasing contrast to the bare and comparatively treeless district which Burns must have seen, whilst the romantic associations connected with its churchyard and castle invest it with a deep historical interest. In its churchyard there is erected a gravestone to the memory of those prisoners in Dunnottar Castle "who died for their adherence to the word of God, and Scotland's covenanted work of Reformation." Sir Walter Scott, when on a visit to the Rev. Mr. Walker, minister here, met "Old Mortality" at his self-imposed task of repairing the monument to the Covenanters. The minister endeavoured to draw the old man into conversation with him, but all in vain, for "the old man's spirit had been sorely vexed by hearing, in a certain Aberdonian kirk, the psalmody directed by a pitch pipe," * * * * * which was, to "Old Mortality," "the abomination of abominations."

Half-a-mile further on we reach the turnpike road, crossed by the Carron Bridge, below which is a deep and beautiful

ravine. Through this the Carron, which has its head waters in Glenbervie, flows. With this burn there is associated a myth which one sometimes even yet hears put forth as truth. It is said that Burns was found fishing in the stream when he was brusquely ordered away by the proprietor. Burns thereupon composed an impromptu verse, ending with "There's your fish, and Rob's awa," and hurled it and the fish after him. Clochanhill, the home of Burns's father, is our next point of interest. It lies about midway between Glenbervie and Stonehaven. The country here is comparatively bare, and presents a striking contrast to the well-wooded part of the same parish which we have just left. In the time of Burns it must have been little better than bare moorland. In his diary he speaks of the "Howe of the Mearns" as a rich, cultivated, but still unenclosed country. But the Poet must have used these epithets as relative terms. In fact, the conditions of that time were adverse to any material improvement of the soil. The farmer had no great security to encourage him in agricultural enterprise. Highland raids were not uncommon, and these led sometimes to great desolation. Farmers then were ill-equipped with implements, the means of communication were bad, whilst the storms of the century, which were very remarkable, did a great deal of damage to the crops. The farmhouse of Clochanhill (or Clochnahill, as it is sometimes called) stands a few hundred yards off the main road. The house has been adapted to modern requirements, and is considerably altered and enlarged since the Burnesses were in possession of it. Part of the original walls, however, remains. Prosperity did not attend the Burnesses in Clochanhill. The conditions above referred to operated against success in farming. They had to leave the farm. The story of how the two brothers—Burns's father and his brother—left the paternal roof has often been told. Gilfillan, in his "Life," draws a pathetic picture of their parting on the top of a hill overlooking their paternal home—"most likely," he says, "Garvock Tap," although it lies almost ten miles to the south of Clochanhill. A good deal of speculation has been indulged in as to what caused the two sons to leave the paternal roof. The common-sense answer to the question is that disaster attended them in their farming. They could not make a living on Clochanhill, and, consequently, made up their minds to seek their

fortune elsewhere. This is more likely than the suggestion that it was due to strong Jacobite feelings and prejudices forcing them to leave the district. The lands of Dunnottar were on the estate of the Earl Marischal, and the whole district, indeed, was* strongly Jacobite, but we know that ere he left home, Burns's father received a certificate stating that he had taken "no share in the late wicked rebellion." Of far greater historical interest to us is the fact that the two sons contrived to send home, now and then, something towards the support of the aged parents. This gives us an insight into their character, which receives all the stronger confirmation from the testimony of the Bard regarding "the saint, the father, and the husband," as depicted in the "Cottar's Saturday Night." Gilfillan, whose imagination sometimes outran his intellect, wonders what the poem of the Poet would have been "On the first (and last) bank note at Clochanhill."

Facing Clochanhill, but a little further along the turnpike, on the opposite side of the road, is the Castle of Fiddes, which also has a peculiar association with the Burness family. It is reputed to be the scene of the famous legend of "Thrummy Cap," which was written by John Burness, cousin-german to the Bard. This legend has for long enjoyed a great popularity amongst the peasantry of the North-East of Scotland. The castle resembles more an ancient keep or stronghold than a dower-house, for which purpose it is believed to have been built. To describe the legend in detail is here unnecessary, except in so far as in it two men are represented as having "forgathered o' the way," about a "hundred miles ayont the Forth," and agreed to seek shelter from the wintry blast at the first house they came to. This was the Castle of Fiddes. The landlord, not caring to accommodate the travellers, advised them of another house of call—

"Gin ye'll gang but twa miles forrit,
 Aside the kirk dwalls Robbie Dorrit,
 Wha keeps a change house, keeps good drink,
 His hoose ye may mak' oot, I think."

The kirk here mentioned is the Kirk of Glenbervie, and Robbie's was one of several "change houses" in the parish at that time. A few straggling trees and a cairn of stones are all that remain to mark the site of Robbie's house. The ballad itself, apart from the fact that it was written by a Burness, and is

said to have obtained the approval of Burns himself when lying ill at Dumfries, is a fair sample of the imaginative literature which, in the past, if not now, was popular amongst the peasantry of Scotland.

Proceeding, we now enter the parish of Glenbervie, at its eastern extremity, the boundary line being marked by the Forthie, a tributary of the Bervie.

The places of interest in connection with the Burnesses lie, however, in the north and west of the parish. Drumlithie, the village of the parish, lies half-a-mile from the turnpike, and close to the north side of the Caledonian Railway. The village is a straggling and irregularly-built place, and dates back to at least the beginning of the sixteenth century. The old parish records of Glenbervie show that at one time the Burnesses, by marriage and otherwise, had a strong connection with the village; but there is only one of the historic name now resident in it, although there are many who will tell you, with a look of proud delight, that "they are o' the same family as Robbie Burns."

But for the pilgrim to the northern "Land of Burns," the "Mecca" is the Kirkyard of Glenbervie, where rest the ashes of the "forebears" of the Bard. It lies under the shadow of the green slopes of the Knock Hill, beside the murmuring waters of the Bervie, which here passes the ancient mansion-house of Glenbervie. It is a romantic spot for a "God's acre," and apart from its being the resting-place of many of the Burnesses has many historical associations of interest. It contains the remains of the old church of Glenbervie, the only part left being a pillar, to which a brass tablet is affixed, recording the names of several members of the family of Stuart of Inchbreck, on which estate the Burnesses lived. In addition there is the Glenbervie family vault, which formed the chancel-end of the old church. Within it are two monuments recording the names and matrimonial alliances of the lairds of Glenbervie from 730 A.D. The inscriptions are in contracted Latin, and are remarkable in that the name of "Bell the Cat," given to the fifth Earl of Angus, is perpetuated. The well-trodden pathway through the long grass of the Kirkyard tells of the many pilgrim feet that have sought out the tombs of the Burnesses. They are now raised on sandstone cradles resting on stone pedestals, the original tombstones having been embedded on the top of the cradles. Previous to this they

were lying on the ground covered with grass and weeds, and so long ago as the “fifties” they were discovered by Dr. Burnes, of Montrose, and his brother, who visited the Kirkyard and the tombs of his relatives. It was not until a few years ago that the work of restoration was undertaken by a committee, with Mr. J. B. Greig, banker, Laurencekirk, as secretary. The only regret in connection with their labours is that the stones should have been so placed as to be even more exposed to the elements than formerly, when they were partially protected by the *debris* and grass which covered them.

The inscription on the one is:—

IN MEMORY OF
JAMES BURNES,
TENANT IN BRAWLIEMUIR, DIED 23RD JANUARY, 1745.
MARGARET FALCONER,
HIS WIFE, DIED 28TH DECEMBER, 1749.

This tomb of the great grandparents of the Poet Robert Burns, restored by subscription, 1885.

On the other:—

IN MEMORY OF
WILLIAM BURNES,
TENANT IN BOGJORGAN;
ALSO OF HIS WIFE, CHRISTIAN FOTHERINGHAM.

It may be interesting to recall that at the ceremony of unveiling the restored monuments, Mr. Stuart, of Inchbreck (who, along with Mr. Nicolson, of Glenbervie, is one of the principal heritors in the parish) was present, and said that he deemed it an honour to hold the bit of land on which the race of Burns first saw the light, and he hoped that the memory of the family would never die out of their native neighbourhood. Dr. Rogers also delivered an oration suitable to the occasion.

We must now direct our steps northward, along the Brae road to the very cradle of the Burness family. Passing the present Parish Church, a glance around will satisfy us of the comparatively recent reclamation of the land on either side of the road. The lands of Inchbreck and Glenbervie here march with each other, but it was on the former that the Burnesses chiefly dwelt. In their time the country was, in general, but a wild, uncultivated boggy moor. The very names of the places we encounter are suggestive—Cotbank, Inches, Backfield, Skellygibb, and others tell their own tale. Further up we meet with Moss-side, Mosshead, Moor of Germany, and others

which bear testimony to the original character of the soil, which, to the credit of both landlord and tenant, has witnessed a splendid, if incomplete, transformation in its appearance during the last century.

The farms of Brawliemuir and Bogjorgan—the latter the very cradle of the family—are seen when once we reach the brow of the brae, sheltered on the north by the heathery slopes of the Grampians. From these two spots on the bleak hillside went forth the various members of the Burness family, now rendered immortal by the genius of the matchless Ayrshire Bard. Dr. Rogers, in his *Genealogical Memoirs*, gives a very exhaustive history of the Burnesses, and hence it will be unnecessary to do more than here indicate the leading branches of the family as connected with Glenbervie and the Mearns generally.

Walter Burness, by his industry and frugality, had, as a humble shoemaker in Mergie, acquired such a competence as enabled him to take the farm of Bogjorgan. Mergie is in Glenbervie, but near to Stonehaven, lying in the north-east or hilly part of the parish. From this Walter Burness we trace two distinct genealogical branches. What family he had is uncertain, but he had at least four sons, viz.:—(1) William, (2) Robert, (3) John, (4) James. William succeeded him in Bogjorgan. Robert and John removed to Fordoun, and afterwards to Benholm, on the coast side, and from them are descended the Burnesses still living there. James, the youngest son, took the farm of Brawliemuir, beside Bogjorgan. We have thus, 1st, the Bogjorgan branch; 2nd, the Brawliemuir branch. William (first) of Bogjorgan was succeeded by his eldest son, also William (second), who again was succeeded by his son William (third), who was the last of the family in Bogjorgan. He had a very numerous family, from one of whom, Robert, are sprung the connections of the family in the Stonehaven district. John Burness, the author of “Thrummy Cap,” already referred to in connection with the Castle of Fiddes, was also a son of John, son of William (third), tenant in Bogjorgan. James Burness, brother to William (second) was at first in partnership with him in Bogjorgan, but latterly he took the farm of Inches, about two miles distant from Bogjorgan.

The Brawliemuir branch can be similarly traced. James

(son to Walter, and brother of William first in Bogjorgan) had issue—four sons and several daughters—(1) William, who succeeded to Brawliemuir; (2) Robert, who took Clochanhill, in Dunnottar; (3) George, who took Elfhill, in Fetteresso; (4) James, who took Hawkhill, in Glenbervie. From James (“Hawkhill”) are sprung the Montrose branch of the Burnesses. The present homesteads of Bogjorgan and Brawliemuir are, of course, different from what they were in the time of the Burnesses. The old house of Brawliemuir has been long tottering to decay. It stands on the heathery slopes of the Grampians, the very picture of desolation and decay. Weeds and thistles abound where once the briar bush and garden flower reared their heads in admiration of the thrifty housewife’s tender care. The windows are barred up by shutters, as if to hide the bleak interior from the vulgar gaze, and a general air of neglect and ruin hangs over the place. In a comparatively short time nothing will be left to mark the old home of the sturdy, independent, home-loving Burnesses but a mingled mess of stones and weeds, which, perchance, will be visited only by the foot of the mountain deer or browsing sheep. The present farmhouse is lower down on the hill slope, and was built about eighty years ago. The farmhouse of Bogjorgan lies a little to the east of Brawliemuir, and consisted originally of a single room, divided into two compartments by a single wood partition. The rafters were open, and the roof thatched. Chambers, in his “Life and Works,” gives an inventory of the home-stading of Bogjorgan in 1705. The thatched dwelling, with its open rafters and draughty windows and doors, would not commend itself to our ideas of comfort, yet, as Robertson in his “Agricultural Survey of Kincardineshire” shows, this was a fair picture of what the farmhouses in the Mearns at that time were. “The farmhouse,” he says, consists, in general, of two close wooden beds, which are so arranged as to make a separation between two apartments; one or two wooden chests for holding clothes; a cask or “giral” for holding meal, a set of dairy utensils, an iron pot or two for cooking the victuals, a girdle or heating-iron for toasting the bread, and a few dishes, some of wood, some of stoneware; two or three chairs or stools, a press or cupboard for holding the crockery ware, and the bread, the cheese, the butter, and, at times, the whisky bottle.”

A consideration of the facts and circumstances mentioned above gives us a glance into the social status of the Burnesses. They were not men of wealth. They were but humble farmers on a bleak and bare hillside, working hard to make ends meet, if, indeed, they always managed to do that. Their hard and stern surroundings developed in them independence, thrift, foresight, and determined resolution, qualities common to the best of our Scottish peasantry, since at least the time of Burns. If honesty of purpose, sterling fidelity towards themselves and their neighbours, and industrious, if not always successful, habits of life and work constitute riches, then the Burnesses, as we can at this stretch of time picture them, were well-equipped with wealth. We have, moreover, the noble description of the Poet's father, a type of the best of his own kith and kin. From Brawliemuir and Bogjorgan can be seen nearly all the spots inhabited by the family, and this fact alone indicates that they had not far to go in search of a farm. They were a home-loving race, types of the

“Wise who soar, but never roam,

True to the kindred points of Heaven and home.”

They were trusted by their landlords, and highly respected in the parish and neighbourhood as men of honour and integrity in word and deed. Clannish they probably were, but it was in the best sense of helping and cheering on each other in the battle of life. They were a type of the older inhabitants of Glenbervie, whose successors, even in the stress and strain of modern civilisation and hurry, have not yet lost those excellent characteristics which were inherited by most of the members of the Burness family.

The question has often been asked, though never satisfactorily answered—Did Burns ever visit, in his northern tour, the homes of his ancestors? If he did, there is no mention of it in his diary. Chambers regrets that he does not do so. In the face of the want of all direct evidence, as well as circumstantial information, we must conclude that he never actually visited the spots; although he must have passed very near to many of them. The following story is given for what it is worth, although we have it on very reliable authority, viz., the Rev. Thomas Mitchell, minister of the parish of Hillside, Montrose:—Mr. Mitchell's father was for more than sixty years

tenant of the farm of Auchtochter, in Fordoun parish, and in his younger days he heard from the lips of a Burness, who afterwards became a Mrs. Strachan, and lived in the village of Auchinblae, that "Robbie," as she called him, was once at Brawliemuir. Asked what she thought of him (the future Mrs. Strachan, being then a servant there), she said—"Weel, naebody could put up wi' him ava; he was far ower clever, and said ower mony smart things for puir country fowk." She said that he made his headquarters for some time in Barras, in Kinneff parish, with some of his relatives there, but this does not square with the entries in his diary, which shows that he passed right through to Laurencekirk.

To complete our circular tour we have to go along the road skirting the base of the hills towards Stonehaven. We pass Elfhill, once in the possession of one of the Burnesses, but beyond this there is very little to tell regarding the connection of the family with the district. Nevertheless, there is a historical interest attached to the lands. Fetteresso Castle is on the estate of the same name. Here Prince James, the old Pretender, was hospitably received and entertained in 1715, and no doubt his visit helped to fan the flame of Jacobitism then strong in the district—the Earl Marischal being an ardent supporter of the Jacobite cause. Other attractive spots and associations there are, but these are beside our present purpose. When we reach Stonehaven again we have completed our circular tour, and if we have not been able to add anything new to what is already known, we have at least tried to act as guide, however imperfectly, through the historical and romantic northern "Land of Burns."

We may say, in conclusion, that the inherited characteristics of the great Bard, transmitted from "the tender father and the generous friend," first received their natal impulse from the surrounding circumstances and lot of his life in Kincardineshire—those grand characteristics of manly independence, prudent foresight, kindly feelings, and love of home, of country and kin, which are still the proud boast of the hard-headed "Men of the Mearns."

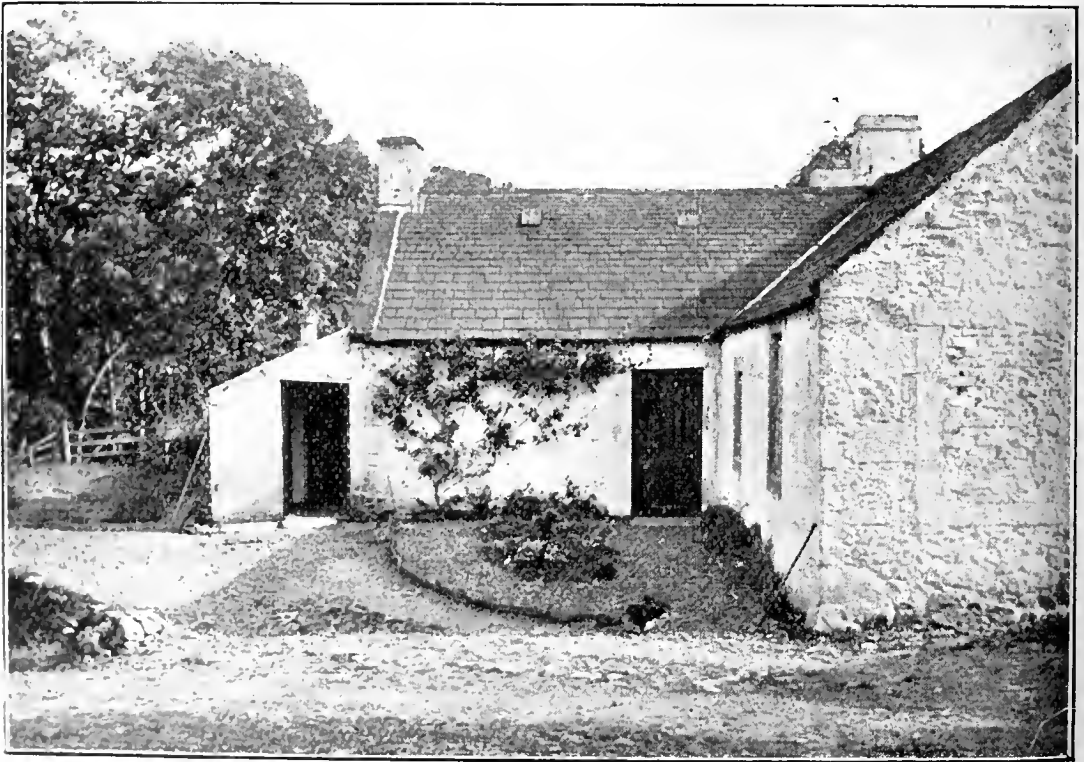
GEO. H. KINNEAR.

ELLISLAND.

RETURNING some time ago from a meeting of Presbytery in Dumfries, I was much interested in three fellow-passengers, an elderly lady accompanied by her son and daughter, whose accent pronounced them to be Americans. They seemed too intelligent to belong to the class who think forty-eight hours quite a long time to devote to "doing" the land of Ossian and Columba, of Scott and Burns. Such conversation as I overheard showed that they intended making a considerable stay in Scotland, and had planned to visit especially the localities associated with the name of the Ploughman Poet, who died in our county town a hundred years ago. They were on their way to Mauchline, and as the train crossed the bridge at Portrack and passed along the embankment which disfigures the holms of Dalswinton, I looked to see if they knew how near they were to one of the places they no doubt desired to visit. Perceiving that they had no idea of its situation, I called the young man's attention to the white walls of Ellisland, peering from the foliage of the trees that topped the high western bank of the Nith. His enthusiasm was unbounded. "Come, mother, and look at Ellisland," he cried; and all crowded to the carriage window. For the few minutes that remained of the run to Auldgrith I was fairly bombarded with questions about how best to visit Burns's farm; and I am certain that before they left the country these three Americans—who might have been Scots in their admiration of the Poet—duly accomplished their pilgrimage to the little homestead by the Nith.

It has not such beautiful surroundings as the cottage at Alloway where the Poet was born, nor is it so full of sad memories as the house in Dumfries where he died, yet Ellisland has attractions all its own. Hither Burns came in 1788, full of high hope and firm resolution. For a time his work prospered, and his life was happy. Here, too, some of his best poetry was written, himself being umpire. It is not fitting, then, that while thousands pay homage at the tomb in St. Michael's Churchyard where he lies, and tens of thousands

crowd to the noble cenotaph which rises by the banks of Doon, the fields which he tilled at Ellisland, and the scene of his home life during three eventful years, should be neglected. Some enthusiastic Burns students have entered their names and of these one or two are world-famous—in the valuable little visitors' book kept by Miss Grierson, but they are very few in comparison with the multitudes whose signatures fill the folios at Alloway. Ellisland is not very easily reached. It is not close to a railway station, and there is no regular service of cars passing the gate. But that circumstance surely cannot fully explain the comparative neglect from which it suffers. On account both of its interesting situation and its associations, it deserves to be better known and more frequently visited.



Ellisland.

The farmhouse of Ellisland is a building of one storey, containing five apartments, arranged in the form of the letter T. It is currently stated that this is the identical cottage built under Burns's superintendence, and with his help, when he entered on his lease in 1788. But there is good reason for doubting the assertion. The house, as it stands now, is

much more commodious than could be put up for £300, the sum allowed by Mr. Miller for the erection of all the necessary farm buildings. And we have the testimony of James Grierson, of Dalgoner, a gentleman of literary and antiquarian tastes, who died in 1845, at the age of 90, that Burns's residence was pulled down before it had stood a quarter of a century. Dalgoner is about five miles from Ellisland, and is close to the parish church of Dunscore. Mr. Grierson knew Burns intimately during the three years the Poet lived on the banks of the Nith, and naturally became a careful student of his writings. There are in existence the four volumes of Currie's edition of Burns's Works, and also the copy of Cromek's *Reliques*, which belonged to him. All the volumes are filled with marginal notes concerning the people, places, and incidents mentioned, in which he seems to have embodied the substance of his own personal knowledge. In the letter to Miss Chalmers, of date 14th March, 1788, Burns says:—"Yesternight I completed a bargain with Mr. Miller, of Dalswinston, for the farm of Ellisland, on the banks of the Nith, between five and six miles above Dumfries. I began at Whitsunday to build a house, drive lime," etc. Here Mr. Grierson adds on the margin:—"This cottage was pulled down by Mr. Taylor, in 1812—who died, 1825." From this note, it is clear that the present Ellisland farmhouse, although it occupies the same site, is not the very abode which Burns took so much pains to set in order for his newly-wedded wife, and into occupation of which they entered, with so much ceremony, in the early summer of 1789. If any part of the original dwelling was permitted to stand when Mr. Taylor carried out his improvements in 1812, it can only be the little room pointed out as the Poet's parlour. This room, differing somewhat outside and in from the rest of the house, occupies the southern end of the building. From the window in the gable beautiful glimpses of the Nith are to be had through the trees, and the path leading down the bank of the river, towards Isle, is in full view. But visitors are attracted by the window itself, more than by the view from it. On its panes there has been traced, with the aid of a diamond, a good deal of writing usually ascribed to Burns; but a close examination shows it to be the production of several hands. Most people are doubtful if any of it is the Poet's work, and among these is his granddaughter, Mrs. Hutchinson,

of Cheltenham. One line, a favourite one, quoted very often by him, Pope's—

“An honest man's the noblest work of God”—

is in a handwriting bearing some resemblance to Burns's, and may possibly have been inscribed by him, but all the rest are seen at a glance to be spurious. Even this line has not been left untouched. An irreverent hand has erased the word “man” and substituted “lass,” and, as if that were not enough, a further improvement has been sought in writing it afresh, so as to make it read

“A *charming woman's* the noblest work of God”—

a line which it would have puzzled Burns and Pope both to scan. The names of “Jean Lorimer, Kemys Hall,” and “John Gillespie,” who was one of the Poet's colleagues in the Excise, appear more than once, and have been several times scored through, like all the rest of the writing. Burns wished to assist Gillespie in his suit for the hand of the fair “Chloris,” whose home was almost in sight on the other side of the Nith, but that was after he left Ellisland and settled in Dumfries, and the occurrence of the names here in his handwriting would be an anachronism.

There is no doubt that Burns wrote many lines with a diamond on the windows of Ellisland—it was a habit of his—but it is questionable if any escaped the destruction carried out by Adam Armour, Jean's brother, under the Poet's orders, when he went to Dumfries. Adam himself told the story to a Dumfriesshire man in 1813. He lived much at Ellisland while he was engaged as a mason at Dalswinton, and his name appears on this southern window, along with that of Fanny Burns, the Poet's cousin, whom he afterwards married. When Mr. John Morin, of Laggan, became proprietor of Ellisland at Martinmas, 1791, his interests came into collision with those of the outgoing tenant. A dispute arose about the condition of the fields and fences, and on the day of the flitting hot words passed. Burns was so enraged that he despatched Adam from Dumfries back to Ellisland that very evening, with instructions to break every pane of glass on which there was any writing. These orders, he declared, he faithfully carried out under cover of the darkness, and Mr. Morin never found out who it was that smashed his windows.

The steading forms, with the house, three sides of a square. The fourth is occupied by the barn-yard, past which a road runs westward some four hundred yards to join the highway to Dumfries. It was in the barn-yard, amid the garnered harvest of 1789, that Burns composed the "Ode to Mary in Heaven," as the shadows of a cold October evening fell. By the side of the Nith is the road up and down which he paced while composing "Tam o' Shanter." It leads past the field where young James Thomson, the son of a neighbouring farmer, shot the hare, whose crippled state, as it fled past the Poet musing by the water side, so aroused his indignation that he threatened to throw the culprit into the Nith. Had Burns carried out his threat, as he was quite capable of doing, the youth would have had to swim for his life, as the river runs very deep close to the Ellisland side. The verses, "On seeing a Fellow Wound a Hare," were inspired by this incident, and disclose the same strong sympathy with dumb creatures in distress as we see in the lines "To a Mouse."

Half-a-mile down the river stands the tower of Isle, its ancient walls hidden with a mass of ivy. It was built about the middle of the sixteenth century, and is still inhabited in connection with the modern mansion-house by its side. The Fergussons of Isle are said to have received their lands from Robert the Bruce, in recognition of faithful support when the Comyns of Dalswinton, just across the river, were his most determined foes. In a hovel at Isle, Burns resided with David Kelly until the new house at Ellisland was ready for occupation. His wife came from Mauchline to join him there, and thence they went forth in the summer of 1789 to take possession in due form of their own home.

The gate lodge of Isle stands nearly on the site of the old manse of Dunscore, and a short way off is the ancient churchyard, which dates back to the twelfth century. No trace of church or manse exists. In 1649 a new church was erected, with a manse near it, at a place more convenient for the majority of the parishioners, namely, the village of Cottack, now called Dunscore, five miles to the west. But the old churchyard continues to be used for interments, and it contains one or two monuments of interest. The mausoleum of the Fergussons of Isle occupies the centre, and close beside it a heap of ruins is pointed out as the tomb of the Griersons of

Lag. A lintel-stone bearing the Grierson arms, together with the initials of Sir William Grierson and Dame Nicola Maxwell, his wife, and the date 1616, lies on the ground. It appears as if the vault in which the persecutor's remains were laid in 1733 had been deliberately overthrown. Close at hand is a plain flat stone, bearing the simple inscription:—"To the memory of Robert Riddel, Esq., of Glenriddel, who departed this life on the 21st day of April, 1794, in the 38th year of his age."

This is the grave of Burns's friend and neighbour, the Laird of Friars' Carse, who is the only one of the Riddels of Glenriddel buried here. Near the western wall a tall white stone bears record of the tenants of Ellisland as far back as 1726. From the churchyard a good view is to be had of the opposite side of the valley. The red walls of Dalswinton are seen rising from a thick wood on the height beyond the holms of Nith. The rising ground hides the lake below the house, on an island in which the ruins of the Red Comyn's castle stand, and on whose waters Patrick Miller made those experiments in navigation which paved the way for the more pronounced successes of Fulton and Henry Bell. Near by, to the east and west of the mansion respectively, are Foregirth and Bankhead, the rich farms which were offered to Burns when he preferred the romantic site of Ellisland and its stony fields to their more commonplace but more fertile acres. These are all in the parish of Kirkmahoe, separated from Dunscore by the River Nith. Finding it inconvenient to have a part of his estate so thoroughly isolated from the rest—for there was no way of communication except by Auldgirth Bridge, three miles distant—Mr. Miller sold Ellisland, when Burns left it, to Mr. John Morin, of Laggan, in Dunscore. The price for the farm of ninety acres was £1900. Fourteen years later Mr. Morin sold it for £4430 to Mr. J. Taylor, in whose family it still remains, forming one of the fifty-six separate estates in the parish of Dunscore.

The mansion of Friars' Carse stands on an eminence almost encircled by the Nith, less than a mile above Ellisland. The name recalls its monastic origin. In the reign of William the Lion the Cistercian brotherhood of Melrose acquired extensive lands in Nithsdale, and founded this house as a rival to the Premonstratensian Abbey of Holy-

wood. There were frequent disputes between the two orders, chiefly about property, and on one occasion the Bishop of Glasgow had to interpose his authority to secure peace. After the Reformation, Friars' Carse, under the title of the Barony of Monkland, became the property of the Kirkpatricks of Ellisland, scions of the house of Closeburn. Then it was for a time in possession of the Maxwells of Tinwald and Barncleugh. About 1730 the estate was purchased by Robert Riddel, of Glenriddel, grandfather of Burns's friend and patron. Glenriddel estates were in Glencairn, where the site of the old castle, marked by a circle of yews, is still pointed out on an eminence overlooking the Cairn. The properties of Borland and Snade are the modern representatives of Glenriddel, and when the owners of these lands lately took a prominent part in founding a public hall in Dunscore, they perpetuated the ancient title by naming it Glenriddel Hall.

The modern house of Friars' Carse does not occupy the site of the monastery, which stood still closer to the Nith. All that remains of it is a tall stone, looking like a broken cross which has been set up on the edge of the lawn, and some smaller carved stones placed at its base. For a long time the keystone of the gateway arch at Lag Tower, described by Grose in his "Antiquities," lay among them, but it has been removed quite recently. The red stone of which the house is built contrasts strikingly with the greenery among which it stands: but one soon notices that while tower and wings are of hewn stone, the centre has been painted a similar shade in oil colour. This painted portion is the most interesting part of the building, for it is in reality the mansion erected by Walter Riddel in 1772-73—the house to which Burns came so frequently as a guest in his son's time. The tower and other parts were built in 1874 by Mr. Thomas Nelson, the late proprietor, who was careful to preserve everything associated with the Poet. The dining-room is still much as it was when Alexander Fergusson, of Craigdarroch, and Sir Robert Laurie, of Maxwelton, the staid member for the county, met to contest with Glenriddel his possession of the "Whistle." A copy in Burns's own hand of the verses he composed in honour of the occasion, and having a note of attestation, signed by his son Robert, appended to it, was long an ornament of the room, but the trustees of the Crichton Royal Institution, who are now owners

of Friar's Carse, have removed it elsewhere for safer keeping. It was in the same room that the Poet met Captain Grose, whose talk of "auld howlet-haunted biggins" suggested "Tam o' Shanter." This "pretty tale," as the facetious antiquary called it, was first printed in his book opposite an engraving of Alloway Kirk.

A favourite resort of the Poet's was the Hermitage, a tiny hut in the wood between Friar's Carse and Ellisland. It is some distance from the Nith, and so embowered in trees, that no view can be had from its windows. The retirement is perfect, and no better retreat for studious meditation could be found. The Hermitage of to-day is a substantial stone building, quite covered with ivy. When Friar's Carse came into Mr. Nelson's hands, he found the little place fallen into decay. The thatched roof and the little window were gone, and the walls were fast crumbling to pieces. He re-built it on the former foundation, using, as far as possible, the old materials, and preserving the original shape and size. If the ivy were removed, one could read the inscription on the gable—"Restored, 1874. T.N."—and notice the Masonic symbols carved on the corbels. Near by there lay, for many years, the recumbent effigy of a friar which Captain Riddel brought from Sanquhar Castle. This statue was lately restored to Lord Bute, who has promised to replace it by a fac-simile. It was here that Burns assumed in imagination the character of the "Bedesman of Nithside," and wrote those counsels of morality, some lines of which he inscribed with a diamond on the pane of glass forming the window. These lines, and those "To Riddel, Much-Lamented Man," written after his patron's death in 1794, have been reproduced on the new windows. The original pane is still in existence, and was on view in the Glasgow Exhibition of 1888 and the Burns' Exhibition of 1896.

The Barony of Monkland had, by Burns's time, been divided into a number of separate estates, yet that section of the parish of Dunscore continued to be regarded as a district by itself. The inhabitants recognised this, and united themselves, at Captain Riddel's suggestion, in the Monkland Friendly Society. Besides other privileges, the members were entitled to read in the library of which Burns had charge at Ellisland. In more than one of his letters reference is made to this library. He sends a notice of it to Sir John Sinclair,

editor of the "Statistical Account of Scotland"; he gives orders to a bookseller in Edinburgh for works which would be considered somewhat heavy for the average country reader now-a-days; and he relates with much gusto how he imposed upon the tailor at Carse Mill, who wanted a book that would keep him in reading for some time, by giving him a Hebrew lexicon, presented by the Rev. Joseph Kirkpatrick.

Carse Mill gives its name to a hamlet a mile from Friar's Carse—the centre of population in the eastern end of Dunscore parish. It overlooks a loch, with a little island in its midst. This is a crannog, or ancient artificial lake dwelling, discovered when extensive drainage operations were carried out twenty years ago for the purpose of reducing the area of the loch. A canoe, some pieces of pottery, and a stone axe were found at



River Nith.

the same time. [Not far off, on a lofty wooded promontory above the Nith, is a stone circle, called the "Temple," the origin of which is commonly referred to Druidical times. Some say, however, that it was Glenriddel who set up these enormous stones; but it is hard to see what end was to be gained by the expenditure of time and labour necessary to do this.

On his many journeys between Ellisland and Mauchline during the first summer he spent on Nithside, our Poet would travel by the old coach road from Dumfries to Glasgow, which is still one of the best in the country. Two miles fully from Ellisland, the road crosses the Nith from the west to the east bank by Auldgirth Bridge, a substantial stone structure which Carlyle's father helped to build. Further on, in the parish of Closeburn, is Brownhill Farm, once an inn much frequented by Burns, and near it is Dinning, where Gilbert Burns lived from the date of his leaving Mossgiel till he went into the Lothians in 1809. Further still is the ancient churchyard of Dalgarno, the only relic of a parish which was amalgamated with Closeburn two hundred years ago. The fair or "tryst" of Dalgarno had not been forgotten in Burns's time, and its mention adds to the local colouring of the song, "Last May a Braw Wooer." The "lang glen" is one of the great passes of the Lowthers, and Gateslack one of the smaller ones. The latter name, for all its reality, did not find favour with the publisher, and Burns had reluctantly to change it into the "lang loan." From Thornhill, whence Tynron Doon is to be seen, recalling memories of the Ettrick Shepherd, the road keeps close by the Nith all up the lovely valley. At Sanquhar it passes the crumbling ruins of "Creighton Peel," for the preservation of which Lord Bute is taking every possible precaution, and where the Friars' Carse statue has been sent back. From the town of "Black Joan" the hill of Corsincon is seen in the distance, marking the Ayrshire boundary, and telling the traveller it is no great distance now to Mauchline.

" But Nith maun be my Muses' well;
 My Muse maun be thy bonie sel';
 On Corsincon I'll glow'r and spell,
 And write how dear I love thee."

There is a height a couple of miles westward from Ellisland, crowned at an altitude of nearly 700 feet by an ancient British fort, from which the whole wide scene of Burns's life in Dumfriesshire may be surveyed as on a map. The course of the Nith can be traced from near Drumlanrig to the Solway. Ellisland is there, in the very middle of the picture, its white walls showing among the trees that clothe the river's bank. The mansions of Dalswinton and Friars' Carse and Isle stand like lordly sentinels around the Poet's cottage home. Down

the river are the ruins of Lincluden, where the mingled waters of Cluden and Cairn pour themselves into the Nith. Further still, a thin vapour of smoke scarcely conceals the dainty little town of Dumfries. Beyond it is the silver gleam of the Solway, shining below the dark mountains of Cumberland.

Turning from Ellisland and that lovely dale of which it is the centre and cynosure, and looking westward, a landscape of many mountains meets the gaze. Hill and glen, wood and stream, brown heather and green pasture land, seem involved in inextricable confusion. The centre of this wild scene is Dunscore Church and its square tower. This is not the identical building to which Burns went to hear the Rev. Joseph Kirkpatrick, until differences of opinion as regards both doctrine and church government led first to hard words between them, and then to their utter estrangement. Mr. Kirkpatrick was minister of Dunscore from 1777 till 1806. In that year he was translated to Wamphray, in Annandale, where he died in 1824. The present church of Dunscore was built in 1823 on the site of the old building, which had stood since 1649. From the height on which the church stands several valleys radiate. One is the Glen of Lag, with the persecutor's tower still standing, scarred by fire and blackened with age. Another is the valley of the Cairn, quite as interesting in its way as Nithsdale itself. Down its course is the Routen Bridge, famed for the beautiful waterfall on the Cluden, over which it is built, and for many associations with Covenanting times. High on the hill behind it are the Communion Stones, with the little gray granite column marking the spot where in the summer of 1678 three thousand Covenanters assembled to partake of the Sacrament. Further down is Irongray Kirk, in whose little churchyard stands Sir Walter's stone to the memory of "Jeanie Deans." In the opposite direction from Dunscore, up Glencairn, is the site of Glenriddel Castle, marked by its ring of dark yews. Then comes Maxwellton, "Annie Laurie's" home, and the home, too, a hundred years later, of Sir Robert Laurie, one of the competitors for the "whistle," who was M.P. for Dumfriesshire for the long period of thirty years. Near it, and now forming part of the estate, is Laggan Park, once owned by William Nicol, Burns's friend, whom he sarcastically names "the illustrious lord of Laggan's many hills." Beyond is the

pretty village of Moniaive, picturesquely situated where three streams, coming down three different glens, unite to form the Cairn. Two miles up the middle valley lies Craigdarroch, where the "whistle" is preserved along with many a worthier relic of the Fergussons, chief among which is the saddle that came home empty from Killiecrankie.

Another valley still among those radiating from Dunscore is Glenesslin, leading westward into Galloway. At its entrance lies Stroquhan, once owned by James Whyte, the retired Jamaica planter, whose advice regarding the journey, when he met Burns at Dr. Douglas's, so modified the Poet's plans that he delayed till the success of his book decided him altogether against seeking his fortune in the West Indies. Mr. Whyte died at Stroquhan in 1822, and was buried in Dunscore Churchyard, where his tombstone is still to be seen. The tower of Sundaywell, the residence of James Kirk, the friend of Welsh of Irongray, and Blackadder of Troqueer, and Archibald of Dunscore, and many a one, besides, of the ministers who were ejected in 1662, is still standing by the wayside, but its companion tower of Bogrie has been destroyed. Beyond Sundaywell the rough, narrow road ascends through a lonely tract of moor to Craigenputtock, where Carlyle wrote *Sartor Resartus*, and that essay on Burns which gave the keynote to all that has been said of our Poet for the last sixty years. This is the limit of Dumfriesshire. Westward, beyond Loch Urr, lies the land of Galloway, with whose moors, and streams, and dark mountains Burns, no doubt, became familiar in the discharge of his duties to the Government while at Ellisland and afterwards. It was on a bleak Galloway moor, amid the raging of a thunderstorm, that he was inspired with the idea of that sublime patriotic lay which has become the National Anthem of Scotland.

RICHARD SIMPSON, M.A., B.D.

(The foregoing illustrations are from photographs kindly supplied by Mr. Thomas Ferguson, of the Nursery Mills, Kilmarnock.)

BURNS, JEAN ARMOUR, AND HIGHLAND MARY AGAIN.

MY attention has been drawn to an article in the *New Review* by Messrs. W. E. Henley and T. F. Henderson on "The Cult of Mary Campbell." I do not presume to ask your permission to criticise this article at length. But I wish to allude to two questions of fact in which, as Editor of the new issue of Robert Chambers's "Life and Works of Robert Burns," I have some interest. Dealing with what they term "The Armour-in-Love Myth," as expressed in the declaration of Robert Louis Stevenson upon the first meeting between Burns and Jean Armour in "Some Aspects of Robert Burns," which was first published in the *Cornhill Magazine* in October, 1879, "This facile and empty-headed girl had nothing more in view than a flirtation; and her heart from the first, and on to the end of the story, was engaged by another man," Messrs. Henley and Henderson say that I "name as its creator, not Robert Chambers (who was, of course, incapable of error), but R. L. S., who merely accepted a fact of Chambers's avouching." In the first place, I do not name R. L. S. as the "creator" of the "legend"; I merely mention that a "statement" was made by him. In the second place, I by no means regard R. L. S.'s decided denunciation of Jean as identical with Robert Chambers's cautious declaration that "the poet . . . never had been *exactly the favourite lover of Jean*, and that there was, it seems, another person whom she fancied above him." Chambers's statement comes to this, that Jean, like most country girls, had several lovers, and that Burns "never had been exactly the favourite." Stevenson's comes to this, that Jean, when she met Burns, was absolutely dominated by another man, and was dominated by him *to the end of the story*; that Burns, so far from not being "exactly her favourite lover," was really in her mind no lover at all. At the time Stevenson's article appeared, his statement led to a protracted newspaper controversy, the upshot of which was that it was believed to be highly probable either that Stevenson based his attack on Jean Armour upon information he had received from some source independent of Burns's

biographers, or on a misreading of the Paisley-Wilson story. As for my "having so failed to master the work I was professing to edit and revise, that I name, as its creator, not Robert Chambers (who was, of course, incapable of error), but R. L. S., who merely accepted a fact of Chambers's avouching," it is enough for me to point out that, on page 333 of my second volume, I have substituted for the statement on which Messrs. Henley and Henderson lay such stress, the following:—"No impartial evidence has ever been adduced in support of the story, that while he was in Edinburgh she had taken another lover; on this point the testimony of Burns's relatives who, at first, at all events, disapproved of his connection with her, cannot in fairness be accepted. Even if she wavered in her loyalty during his absence, her old love returned in full force when he appeared once more on the scene." A not inconsiderable amount of research has convinced me that the gossip of Mrs. Begg, communicated chiefly through her daughter Isabella, and also of Gilbert, who was well-intentioned, but not invariably accurate, has had a great deal to do with the depreciation of Jean Armour, which was one of the features of most of the earlier biographies of Burns.

Messrs. Henley and Henderson, referring to the possibility of Burns, enraged at Jean Armour for having "deserted" him, betrothed himself to a Mary Campbell, who is proved to have given birth in Mauchline to a child of which John Hay, a farmer in the parish of Dundonald, ultimately acknowledged himself to be the father, say, "It is not in the nature of things incredible—notwithstanding the innocent scorn of Mr. Wallace—that Burns betrothed himself to a woman who had a misfortune, especially when his reputation and his fortunes were at their zenith. On the contrary, the respectable father of Jean Armour (in for a misfortune through Farmer Burns, just as the Dundonald Mary Campbell had been in for a misfortune through Farmer Hay) had every expectation that his daughter, notwithstanding her misfortune, might get betrothed to a person both richer and better reputed than her seducer. Neither the ideas of Robert Burns nor the ideas of Mauchline on such a subject were so delicate as the ideas of the would-be vindicators of Mary Campbell and her Bard." This means, of course, that Jean Armour stood in the same relation to Burns that the Mary Campbell who had a child to

Farmer Hay did to that person. Such is very far from being the case, however. Jean Armour was in a position to marry Burns: she did marry him; it is even doubtful if after the affair of the "lines" she was not married to him before the birth of her first children. The Mary Campbell who was seduced by Farmer Hay was in a very different and much more disgraceful position. She could not marry her seducer, for he was already a married man. The official chronicler of the births of his illegitimate children by the members of his harem also notes the births of his children by his wife. These he describes as "lawfully begotten." The others are distinguished not as "merry-begots"—the kirk-session chronicler does not appear to have been familiar with Henley-Hendersonese—but as "begotten in uncleanness." Is it so very astonishing that I should be rather sceptical as to the identity of this girl with the Highland Lassie of Burns's verse and still more of his prose, or slow to believe that with such a record she should have thought it necessary to go through the more or less religious betrothal ceremony to which testimony is thought to be borne by the Bibles now in the Ayr monument? Of course, Messrs. Henley and Henderson were ignorant of this all-important fact in connection with the relations between John Hay and Mary Campbell—just as they were so ignorant of the fact that Burns wrote to the London newspapers repudiating the idea of some wretched verses by Henry Dundas, or one of his literary jackals, being his, that they actually print this doggerel as Burns's in the second of their volumes! Mr. Henley, after being found out, kindly says: "The rhymes we attribute to Burns might very well have been written in a drunken moment—he was sometimes partly oblivious, as he confessed, of stuff produced in such circumstances!" So much the worse for Messrs. Henley and Henderson, and the former's atrocious attack on the Scottish people—although, what is to be expected of folk whose two specialties are, according to him, "fornication and theology?" The Mary Campbell of the Dundonald Records was a member (and apparently not the favoured member) of a farmer's harem. Even in benighted Scotland, all given over to "fornication and theology" though it is, she would have been placed on an immeasurably lower plane than Jean Armour, whose only fault was that she loved well rather than wisely. But Mr. Henley in his essay, not in

the magazine article which he has written in conjunction with Mr. Henderson, speaks of the fatal fascination which certain women of the type of Cleopatra have had for certain men of the type of Antony. In order to make Burns a modern Antony, as well as a modern Mirabeau, he is evidently quite willing to believe the story that, according to a manuscript which now lies in the Edinburgh Advocates' Library, Richmond informed Train that the Mary Campbell who was in the employment of Gavin Hamilton was a mistress of Captain Montgomerie, and that the fact was demonstrated to Burns. Now the story ascribed to Richmond is absolutely vitiated by the fact that he is also represented as having told Train that on one occasion Clarinda called at his lodgings to see Burns, obviously for an immoral purpose, which purpose was frustrated by the fact that Burns was out. Now, whoever told this story was—and must have known he was—an outrageous and impudent liar, because Burns did not live with Richmond during the winter when he made the acquaintance of Clarinda. No evidence that would be listened to for a minute in a Small Debt Court has ever been adduced to the effect that the Mary Campbell, who is supposed to have been Burns's Highland Mary and Highland Lassie—I say “supposed” advisedly—could ever be considered in any sense what Mr. Henley terms “a light-skirts.” But if she had been a sort of Cleopatra to Burns's Antony, of one thing we may be absolutely certain, Burns would have celebrated her sensual charms in sensual verse. He did the very reverse. Mr. Henley has discovered, in his essay, not in his magazine article, that Burns parted from Highland Mary under “suspicious circumstances.” This is a discovery indeed! The only words that Burns used, either in prose or verse, of his parting with Mary, point to the very “grave” suspicion that he and she were engaged to be married, and that they had an affectionate meeting as a preliminary to making the usual marriage preparations! The ordinary interpretation of such words, however, does not suit Mr. Henley, who sees “sculduddery” in every breeze and in the movements of every leaf. And so, in the parting and the exchanged Bibles, he reads a superb and quite Scotch combination of “fornication and theology.”

On one point I have the rare pleasure of agreeing with Mr. Henley. He disposes, very effectually, of the famous and crude

essay of his friend Robert Louis Stevenson, which was written mainly to prove that Jean Armour was a “facile empty-headed girl,” who made a bad wife to Burns. For this I am half inclined to forgive Mr. Henley his thousand and one amusing inaccuracies, such as that Burns told Ramsay of Auchtertyre (*sic*), that his grandfather had been gardener to the Earl Marischall at Inveraray (*sic*), and that Currie is to be trusted as to what Dr. Maxwell said about Burns’s last illness, when it has been demonstrated that Mrs. Dunlop’s weak relative was all abroad as to Burns’s going to the Brow Well in opposition to the advice of his medical adviser! I feel even inclined to let pass his outrageous nonsense about Burns being a ribald peasant and a faun-like creature because, in an occasional moment of idleness and the strictest privacy, he realised, as every very great humourist has realised, “the farce of sex.” He does well to stand up for Jean, whose conduct as Burns’s wife and widow, and the fondly anxious mother of his children, cannot be too highly praised. I honour the sentiment which has led to the erection of the monument at Dunoon. But if there must be monuments to other actors in the great Burns drama than Hamlet himself, the second place of honour is due to Jean.

WILLIAM WALLACE.



A PANEGYRIC ON BURNS.

(BY A CONTEMPORARY SCOTTISH POET.)

A MONTH or two ago there was brought under our notice a copy of a volume of poems (an octavo of 140 pages), the title page of which runs as follows :—

POEMS

IN

ENGLISH, SCOTCH, AND LATIN.

Majores majora sonent ; mihi parva locuto
Sufficit in vestras saepe redire manus.

—MART.

PAISLEY :

PRINTED BY T. NELSON, FOR THE AUTHOR.

1794.

There is nothing in the Preface to indicate the identity of the author, but from the legal phraseology employed all through the work, it is almost certain he was engaged in the profession of the law. Enquiries which we set on foot have elicited the fact that the book is not entirely unknown, though, strange to say, it has never been chronicled, so far as our knowledge goes, in any Burns Bibliography. A copy of it is preserved in the Mitchell Library, and we have traced about half a dozen more to the possession of private collectors. Regarding the authorship, the guess has been hazarded that it is an early production of James Grahame, author of *The Sabbath* and *The Birds of Scotland*. Though Grahame was a Glasgow lawyer, and the son of a legal practitioner in the same city, we are inclined to think that he could not possibly be the author of the volume in question. From internal evidence, it is perfectly clear that the writer was a man verging towards the middle period of life, for of himself he says :—

“ . . . I am a lang black chiel,
Twa ell amaist frae head to heel ;
Afore the time I'm some thocht gray
And lyart.

And in another place—

“ Trust me wha'm growin' auld and keisint,
That weel-timed daffin's unco pleasant.”

If the ellipsis in the following passage were not so much of a historical conundrum, his age could be ascertained to a certainty, and the point of authorship settled by comparing it with that of Grahame, who was born in 1765.

“Whan daft Britannia turned knight errant,
An’ fee’t that loun’ S——’s* tyrant
To ser’ himsel’, I was just then
Maist four times twa, and twa times ten.”

Grahame, it will be observed, was just one year older than “four times twa and twa times ten” at the date of publication.

Be the author whom he may, the book is valuable as containing a poetic effusion in praise of Burns shortly after the latter took up his residence in Dumfries. And the composition is all the more remarkable on account of the note attached to it, which we give *in situ*. By way of heading, he quotes a stanza from Burns’s “Winter Night,” and then proceeds:—

“The bard whose song still echoes in the vale,
The bard whose song each lovely tongue recites,
Is left to moil like men of common mould;
The song still charms us; but the bard’s forgot.
'Tis thus the thrush, sweet minstrel of the spring,
His woodnotes wild pours from the milkwhite thorn;
But when stern winter chills the leafless grove,
Shivering he’s left to glean his scanty food,
Nor ever is the woodland path bestrewn,
Save with intent to lure him to the snare.

Ungrateful country! ill-requited Burns!
Shall he who sang, in Scotia’s Doric lays,
‘The lowly train in life’s sequestered scene,’
Remain neglected in the scene he paints,
And ask, perhaps in vain, ‘for leave to toil?’
Shall he who sang far sweeter than the lark,
When upward springing from the daisy’s side
To greet the purpling east,
Be driven from the fields cheer’d by his song?

Who e’er with truth, and yet with dignity,
Like him rehearsed the annals of the poor?
Did e’er religion half so lovely seem
In temples, as in his low lonely cot?
‘The Power incensed the pageant will desert,
The pompous strain, the sacerdotal stole,
And hap’ly in some cottage far apart
May hear, well pleas’d, the language of the soul;
And in his book of life the inmates poor enrol.’

Ye patrons of the mighty dead, who strive
T’ immortalise immortal Thomson’s name,
Rear not to angels mole-hill monuments,
While living merit owns no sheltering roof:
Rather would Thomson’s gentle spirit see
A mansion raised for his neglected Burns,
Than gorgeous mausoleums for himself.”

[Written several years ago.]

The book also contains a Latin version of Burns's poem, "To a Mouse," the Scottish text and the translation appearing on opposite pages. This we may give on a future occasion, along with other compositions of a similar character.

D. McNAUGHT.

THE LATE MR. COLIN RAE BROWN.

It is our melancholy duty to chronicle in this issue the death of Mr. Colin Rae Brown, which sad event took place at his London residence on Saturday, 11th September, 1897—the anniversary of the Battle of Stirling, a date which he assisted to immortalise by the prominent part he took in the erection of the Wallace Monument on the Abbey Craig, Stirling, overlooking the battle-field. For some time before the sad event his health began to fail, and it was remarked by those who knew him well that, at the unveiling of the Highland Mary Statue at Dunoon, his physical powers appeared even then to be upon the wane. This was the last public movement with which his name was associated, and it is owing to his enthusiasm and untiring efforts that it was carried to a successful issue. By special instructions in his last will and testament, his body was cremated, and the urn containing his ashes was interred in Highgate Cemetery on 12th October, in presence of a representative gathering of the *literati* and Burnsites of the Metropolis.

Mr. Colin Rae Brown was born at Greenock in December 1821, so that he had nearly completed his seventy-sixth year. He began his career in a Glasgow publishing house, and very early manifested a bias towards literature. He contributed both in prose and poetry to the leading periodicals of the day, and his Burns enthusiasm was such, that for half a century he was the head and front of every movement in honour of the National Bard. For many years he was honorary secretary of the Greenock Burns' Club, and he was closely associated with Professor Wilson ("Christopher North") in organising the great Ayr Festival of 1844. He was a pioneer in the cheap newspaper press of the country, strenuously seconding Cobden, Bright, Gilpin, Cassell, and other reformers in their efforts to secure the abolition of the stamp duty on newspapers. In 1847 he assisted in founding the *North British Daily Mail*, and he was also connected with that popular work, *Tait's Magazine*. In 1855 he was one of the chief promoters of the *Daily Bulletin*, the first regular daily penny newspaper in the kingdom. He was also instrumental in establishing two weekly journals in Glasgow, the *Scottish Banner*



The Late Colin Rae Brown.

and the *Workman*. It was in the columns of the *Bulletin* that he made his first appeal to Scotsmen for the erection of the Wallace Monument, and when, mainly through his advocacy, the movement took practical shape, he was appointed convener and chairman of the permanent executive committee. In conjunction with Sir Archibald Alison, Sheriff Glassford Bell, Professor Nichol, and other representative Scotsmen, he organised the Burns Centenary Festival of 1859, and it was greatly owing to his characteristic energy that that event was such a memorable success. He was one of the founders of the Burns Federation, of which body he has been an honorary vice-president since its foundation in 1885. It was also on his suggestion that the Federation undertook the publication of the *Burns Chronicle*, for the success of which he evinced the most lively concern down to the day of his death. When the centenary of the publication of the First Edition was celebrated in Kilmarnock in 1886, as the representative of the London Burns Club, he was the honoured guest of the brilliant array of the talent of the West which that occasion brought together. Among his personal friends were De Quincey, Samuel Lover, and Colonel Glencairn Burns, the youngest surviving son of the Poet. Mr. Rae Brown occupies a high position among our recent minor poets. In his early years he published "Lays and Lyrics by Sea and Land," and more recently, "Noble Love" and "The Dawn of Love," all of which have had an extensive circulation.

Mr. Rae Brown was a man of most engaging manners and sterling worth, and was held in the highest esteem by everyone who knew him. He spent the summer months in his Highland home at Tighnabruaich, returning in the autumn to London, where he had resided since 1862. He leaves a widow and a family of three sons and three daughters, two of the former being resident in California.



ANNUAL MEETING OF BURNS FEDERATION.

GREENOCK BURNS CLUB ROOMS,
36 NICHOLSON STREET, 3RD JUNE, 1897.

THE annual general meeting of the Executive of the Burns Federation was held here this afternoon, at 3 o'clock.

Present—Provost Mackay, Kilmarnock (presiding); D. M'Naught, J.P., editor *Burns Chronicle*; Capt. D. Sneddon, secretary; Thomas Amos, M.A.; William Findlay, M.D.; and David Murray, M.A., B.Sc., representing Kilmarnock Club. The Greenock Club was represented by Bailie P. M'Farlane, president; R. B. Shearer, vice-president; J. B. Morison, secretary; A. T. Anderson, treasurer; W. Sturrock, Robert Smith, J. Farquhar, Neil M. Brown, Archibald Niven, R. M. Smith, Wm. Allison, W. A. Cairney, John Arnott, James Glen, J. G. M'Kean, A. S. Morris, Hugh Kerr, John M'Lure, and J. S. Deas. From Dundee Club, Edward Piel, secretary; George Fraser, Alexander Strachan, and D. M'Nab. From Glasgow—Bridgeton Club, A. J. Bain, president; and Robert Scott, ex-president. Royalty Club, John Young. Springburn Club, John Law, William Anderson, John Young, Thomas Wilson, and Wm. M'Bain, secretary. St. Rollox Club, Donald Crawford. Caledonian Club, Thomson Higgins, president; and John Magarry, secretary. Carlton Club, James C. Hendry, p-president; and John F. Robertson, secretary. Sandyford Club, J. M. Munro. Glasgow Mauchline Society, J. Leiper Gemmill, president. Co-operation Club, Robert Reyburn, secretary. Thistle Club, John Peters, secretary. Barlinnie Club, Robert Ford, hon. president; John Scott, president; John Panton, secretary; and Dr. U. L. Muir. Gourock Jolly Beggars Club, D. Malcolm, vice-president; J. E. Turnbull, and James Adams. Thornliebank Club, John Dalgliesh. Campsie Club, Watson Hunter, president; and James Simpson, secretary. Clackmannan Club, Charles Strachan. Carlisle, J. Stobbo.

The hon. secretary read the minutes of the annual meeting, held in George Hotel, Kilmarnock, on 20th November, 1896, which, on the motion of Provost Mackay, were unanimously agreed to.

Letters of apology for unavoidable absence were intimated from Peter Sturrock, president; Colin Rae Brown, vice-president; George Dunlop, and Joseph Brockie.

The hon. secretary, in absence of the hon. treasurer, submitted the financial statement, showing a credit balance of £26 11s 2d in the ordinary funds, and a balance of £44 7s 6d at credit of the *Burns Chronicle*, making a total sum in hand of £70 18s 8d. The financial report was unanimously approved of.

Mr. D. M'Naught, editor of the *Burns Chronicle*, gave an interesting account of his work in connection with this annual, and urged upon all members present the necessity of bringing the work under the notice of their respective clubs, with the view of more extended support from these organisations. He also stated that every effort would be made to have Vol. VII. in the hands of subscribers as early in January as possible. It was unanimously resolved to accede to Mr. M'Naught's request, and give the *Burns Chronicle* the hearty support it so well deserved.

Mr. J. M. Munro agreed to continue the publication of the *Chronicle* for another year on the same terms as formerly, for which he was awarded a very cordial vote of thanks.

The following Loyal Address to Her Most Gracious Majesty on the occasion of her Diamond Jubilee was read to the meeting and approved of, and the Hon. Secy. instructed to get it engrossed and forwarded through Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Secretary for Scotland.

“TO THE QUEEN’S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

“MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY,

“We, in our own name and on behalf of the Executive Council and members of the Federation of Burns Clubs, St. Andrews, and kindred societies all over the world, beg respectfully to offer to your Majesty our most sincere and hearty congratulations on the completion of the sixtieth year of the most notable reign in the history of our country.

“We acknowledge with thankfulness the blessings to your people that have attended your Majesty’s long and beneficent rule, both at home and throughout the widespread dependencies of your Sovereignty and Empire. More especially does it become us, as representatives of the Burns Federation, to acknowledge the unostentatious encouragement which your Majesty has always accorded to the cause and interests of social, literary, and charitable institutions throughout your dominions. The general improvement in our social relations, the spread of literature, and the increased facilities for education among all classes of the community during the last sixty years, are due in great measure to your Majesty’s guiding influence and example.

“As warm-hearted loyal Scots, ardent admirers of the genius of Burns, our King of Song, banded together in a universal confederation for the purpose of increasing and cementing social intercourse, cultivating literary tastes, and extending the helping hand of charity, we beg respectfully to wish your Majesty many more happy years to reign over a people whose fervid feeling of loyalty is as much the result of your Majesty’s personal qualities as of the constitutional traditions of the country.

“P. STURROCK, *President*.

COLIN RAE BROWN, *Vice-President*.

DAVID SNEDDON, *Hon. Secy*.

“Kilmarnock, 3rd June, 1897.”

The Secretary submitted a Jubilee Greeting, entitled, “God Bless Thee, Queen Victoria,” written by Mr. Colin Rae Brown, which it was agreed to leave in the hands of the Executive to get printed and circulated. Mr. J. Leiper Gemmill gave detailed information regarding the Burns Cottage Homes for the Aged at Mauchline, and it was agreed to hold the next annual meeting at that town, in the month of June.

After the business meeting, the company, to the number of 130, had an excursion in the Glasgow & South-Western Company’s steamer “Mercury” from Princes Pier, through the Kyles of Bute, to Kames. Dinner was served *en route*. A toast list was subsequently proceeded with—Bailie Peter Macfarlane, President of the Greenock Club, in the chair, and Provost Mackay, Kilmarnock, acting as croupier. After the usual loyal and patriotic toasts, Mr. McNaught proposed “Greenock Burns Club,” Mr. James B. Morison, secretary, replying. In the course of a short speech in response to the toast of “The Burns Federation,” Captain D. Sneddon said that in the history of that body there never had been a more successful meeting, and he felt confident that it was only the earnest of better things to come.

D. SNEDDON, Hon. Secy.

GOD BLESS THEE, QUEEN VICTORIA.

God bless thee, Queen Victoria!
 May He thy footsteps guide,
 And through the measure of thy days
 O'er ev'ry hour preside.
 As Empress, Queen, and Mother, thine
 Has proved a blissful sway,
 And grateful hearts with one accord
 Love, honour, and obey.

God bless thee, Queen Victoria!
 May He thy footsteps guide,
 And through the measure of thy days
 O'er ev'ry hour preside.

Thy glorious reign throughout the years
 Shall with fresh lustre shine,
 And all the annals of the age
 Thy name and fame enshrine.
 The love of glory, stained with blood,
 For some have gained renown,
 But blessed peace has wove for thee
 The laurels of thy crown.

God bless thee, Queen Victoria!
 May He thy footsteps guide,
 And through the measure of thy days
 O'er ev'ry hour preside.

Thy greatest victories have been won
 Amongst the peaceful arts,
 And countless millions o'er the world
 Proclaim thee Queen of Hearts.
 May He who ruleth over all
 Watch ever over thee,
 And still maintain Britannia's realms,
 United, great, and free!

God bless thee, Queen Victoria!
 May He thy footsteps guide,
 And through the measure of thy days
 O'er ev'ry hour preside.

COLIN RAE BROWN, V.P.

CLUB NOTES.

(Communicated.)

CAMPSIE BURNS CLUB.

(Instituted 1890.)

MOTTO—"Shall Brithers be an' a' that."

SYLLABUS—Session 1896-97.—September 26th, 1896—"A Visit to the Burns Exhibition,"—Mr. W. Hunter. October 31st—"Shakespeare,"—Mr. George M'Kay. Wednesday, November 18th—Lecture—"At the Grave of Burns,"—Rev. P. Anton. December 26th—"Dickens,"—Mr. James Simpson. January 22nd, 1897—School Children's Annual Prize Competition. January 24th—"The Religious Teaching of Burns,"—Rev. J. Y. Scott. Anniversary Celebration. February 27th—"Something about Burns,"—Major R. Stirling. March 27th—"An Hour wi' Burns and Scott,"—Mr. John M'Donald. April 24th—Annual General Meeting.

Give from £6 to £10 in prizes to school children for singing and reciting.

DUNDEE BURNS SOCIETY.

OFFICE-BEARERS—President, Mr. A. H. Millar, F.S.A., Scot.; vice-presidents, Mr. J. B. Macdonald, Mr. John Willocks; secretary, Mr. Robert Fulton, 44 Provost Road; treasurer, Mr. A. C. Lamb, F.S.A., Scot.; executive committee, Messrs. John Ramage, W. F. Black, G. Scrymgeour, Wm. Martin, John Smart, George Sword.

Rooms—36 Nethergate.

SYLLABUS—1896-97.—October 5th—"William Motherwell, an Editor of Burns,"—A. H. Millar. October 12th—"Blind Harry's 'Wallace,'"—John Paul. October 19th—"Alexander Ross, the Poet of the Grampians," Andrew Stewart. October 26th—Musical Evening,—Conducted by J. B. Macdonald. November 2nd—"Early Scottish Poetry,"—John Scott. November 9th—"Alexander Nicholl of Collace, a forerunner of Burns,"—Norval Scrymgeour. November 16th—"The Influence of Burns on Present-day Thought,"—John Willocks. November 23rd—"The Later years of Robert Burns,"—W. Wallace, Glasgow. November 30th—Musical Evening,—Conducted by George Scrymgeour. December 7th—"Robert Fergusson the Poet,"—J. H. Martin. December 14th—"Songstresses of Scotland,"—Miss H. G. Souter. December 21st—Open Discussion, "The Moral Influence of Burns's Poetry,"—Leader, Robert Fulton. December 28th—Musical Evening,—Conducted by James Small. January 4th, 1897—"Robert Burns and Scottish Song: where he found it and how he left it,"—Robert Ford, Glasgow. January 11th—"Scottish Reel-playing, Past and Present," with illustrations,—Wm. C. Honeyman. January 18th—"The True Story of Burns's Highland Mary,"—George Scrymgeour. January 25th—Musical Evening, "The Songs of Burns,"—Conducted by J. B. Macdonald. February 1st—"Robert Nicoll, 'Scotland's Second Burns,'"—Miss J. M. King. February 8th—"The Scottish Language of Burns's Time,"—W. B. Irvine, B.A. February 15th—"Burns and Scottish Nationality,"—Rev. D. Macrae. February 22nd—Musical Evening, Conducted by W. T. Scroggie. March 1st—"Robert Burns and George Macdonald, a Contrast,"—T. M. Davidson, M.A. March 8th—Rev. Dr. Patrick. March 15th—Open Discussion, "Why is Scotland Poetical?"—Leader, Mrs. R. A. Watson. March 22nd—"Robert Tannahill,"—John Mitchell. March 29th—Musical Evening,—Conducted by A. H. Millar.

THE KILMARNOCK BURNS CLUB.

(Established 1808.)

THE Anniversary meeting was held in the George Hotel on Monday evening, 25th January, 1897, at 7.45 o'clock, when an eloquent address was delivered by Mr. Kerr. Chairman, John Kerr, Esq., B.L.; croupier. Rev. John Craig, B.D.

ABERDEEN BURNS CLUB.

THE semi-jubilee dinner of the Aberdeen Burns Club was held on the evening of 25th January, 1897, in the Imperial Hotel. Mr. William Carnie occupied the chair, and Mr. J. S. Stuart was croupier. After dinner Mr. Carnie delivered a most interesting and able "Retrospect" of the Club, by way of preface to the "Immortal Memory." The meeting was a most successful one.

THE DUNEDIN BURNS CLUB.

(Instituted 1891.)

SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT.

Submitted to the Annual Business Meeting of Members, held in the Choral Hall, Moray Place, Dunedin, on Friday, 26th March, 1897.

IN submitting this, the Sixth Annual Report, to the Club, your committee must congratulate the members on the great success the Club has achieved since its inception. As in the past, the year just closing shows a record of unqualified success. As heretofore, the monthly gatherings have been a source of much pleasure and social intercourse to Members and their families. The entertainments have been varied and instructive, and carried out strictly on Scottish lines. The various speakers during the year have been especially successful in giving to Members some of the best thoughts of Burns in glowing language, enthused by the noble aspirations of Scotland's King of Song, whose death centenary was so fittingly commemorated during the year.

In Dumfries, where our Club's offering was sent to swell the world's tribute to the genius of the Scottish Poet, so great was the enthusiasm, so magnificent the display, that it has been well said—"The world's history holds no parallel to the affection and reverence displayed to the genius and worth of Burns on the centenary of his death." The Dunedin Burns Club's wreath, with its accompanying sonnet, were warmly acknowledged, coming as they did from the earth's utmost end; and we have reason to be proud that while all the world rendered homage, New Zealand did not fail to contribute her share.

In commemorating the death centenary, your own Club was not lacking in its display of loyalty and devotion. The largest hall in the city was crowded to overflowing. The speaker, the Hon. Thos. Fergus, gave an oration worthy of the occasion, which delighted and enthralled the large audience. On behalf of the living relatives of the Poet, our worthy past president and patron, Mr. A. J. Burns, grand-nephew of the Poet, thanked the speaker and all present for the great honour done to the memory of their kinsman.

Twenty general meetings of committee have been held during the year, besides various meetings of sub-committees; and otherwise your executive have devoted considerable time and attention to the affairs of the Club.

Accommodation of Members has given your committee some concern, as our monthly meetings are usually uncomfortably crowded. The incoming committee will have to consider the question of securing a larger hall.

Your committee have not been altogether unanimous in seeing their way to institute the proposed scholarship. The state of our funds should warrant this matter being a first consideration for the new committee, as it would enhance the interest taken in the Club, and add materially to its status.

SYDNEY, N.S.W.

THE centenary was celebrated in Sydney by "A Nicht wi' Burns," in the Town Hall, on the evening of 20th July, 1896. On the 21st, the Burns Club held their annual meeting under the presidency of the Hon. Dr. Maclaurin, supported by Professor M'Callum, Hon. G. H. Reid, M.P., Hon. A. Brown, M.L.C., Dr. Graham, and other persons of note. Professor M'Callum delivered the oration, which was received with the greatest enthusiasm. A humorous illustrated *menu* of great artistic merit was distributed as a memento of the occasion.

INVERCARGILL BURNS CLUB, NEW ZEALAND.

THE inauguration of the Invercargill Burns Club was celebrated in the theatre, on 26th January, 1895, by an entertainment given in honour of the 136th anniversary of the Scottish Poet's birth. There was a large and enthusiastic gathering, all parts of the house being well filled, and from the interest taken in the proceedings, and the appreciation shown, it is evident that the newly-formed organisation has been auspiciously born to a long and vigorous life. The Mayor (Mr. W. B. Scandrett) presided, and the following gentlemen occupied seats on the platform:—The Rev. J. Anderson Gardiner, Messrs. T. Denniston, J. E. Watson, A. Raeside, and A. M'Kellar. The Mayor delivered a rousing address, which excited great enthusiasm.



REVIEWS.

In conformity with the resolution of the Federation, the last number of the "Chronicle" was issued as a memorial of the Death Centenary, no space being reserved for the usual addenda. In consequence, much valuable material had to be held over.

Books intended for review must be in the hands of the Editor before the end of October.

BURNS IN ENGLISH.

SELECT POEMS OF ROBERT BURNS. Translated from the Scottish Dialect by ALEXANDER CORBETT. Boston: ALEXANDER CORBETT.

THIS is a laboured but conscientious attempt to translate some of Burns's Scottish poems into English by substituting synonyms wholesale wherever the translator considers them necessary for readers ignorant of the Scottish tongue. The result cannot be characterised as a success in any sense of the term; indeed, in a good many instances, the translation itself would require a glossary for satisfactory elucidation. This need not be wondered at when we read in the preface:—"To have tried to merely substitute an English word for a Scotch one would have been abortive. I have, therefore, used a free lance, and changed the rhyme, and occasionally the sense, to suit the exigency. The rhyme will often be found imperfect, but the Bard's delinquency in that respect is, perhaps, a trifle worse than my own." When a translator makes a confession of this kind, it almost amounts to a disqualification for the task he has undertaken, not to speak of the unconscious revelation of self-conceit contained in his allusion to the imperfect rhyme—a gratuitous rubbing against the hair which might very well have been avoided. He says, further:—"It is well nigh impossible to translate the songs, even were it desirable; I have, therefore, only attempted to change a few of them." That he has not managed to surmount the "impossible" is quite evident in "John Anderson, my jo," with the first stanza of which he takes the following liberties:—

"John Anderson, my jo, John,
When we were newly wed,
Your hair was like the raven,
Your cheeks were round and red."

Nor can any one approve of the emendation on "There Was a Lad," which makes

. . . "a streak of wintry sun
Glance kindly in on Robin,"

instead of the time-honoured "blast o' Janwar win'," which was surely a more appropriate "hansel" to the unfortunate prodigy whose life had in it more of storm than sunshine. Luckily, Mr. Corbett only takes seven of the songs in hand, if we except the interludes of the "Jolly Beggars," in one of which he very funnily "Whistles the remainder," instead of "O'er the lave o't." In the poems selected, the "impossibility," as well as the insufficiency of Mr. Corbett's methods are quite as painfully apparent.

Why, for instance, should such a stanza as this be interpolated in "To a Mouse," when the minimum of brain-cudgelling could easily have preserved the original setting?

"Thy fragile house I set my plough in,
The angry wind has left in ruin,
No stuff you'll find to build a new one—
There's nothing green;
No place now left to bill and coo in,
In winter keen."

This is not translation; it is burlesque. It is this tendency to prefer his own "stuff" to Burns's which provokes the reader. Where is the English-speaking man or woman who cannot understand this?

Thy wee bit dwelling, too, in ruin,
Its silly walls the winds are strewing,
And nothing now to build a new one,
Of foggage green;
And bleak December winds ensuing,
Both snell and keen.

In the same category must be placed the description of the spectre in "Death and Dr. Hornbook."

"Its height was far beyond the human,
Its sex seemed neither man nor woman,
It had no atom of abdomen;
As for its legs,
They looked as they'd be fine for roamin'
O'er hills and crags."

If the difficulty was greater here there ought to have been more effort, or the task abandoned. A translator must also be well up in his text. That "twa guid gimmer-pets" are animals unknown in Boston is apparent from the translation—

"His only son with Hornbook plots
To breed disaster;
By gift, of two small cottage lots
He's now the master."

What, again, is the necessity for such a travesty as—

"I pant less, and want less,
Their cheerless, big fireside,"

which is absolute nonsense? We might go on to any length making selections of a similar character, for scarce a page is free from them. That there is but a single step from the sublime to the ridiculous is signally exemplified in the rendering of "Tam o' Shanter," where we encounter such lines as—

"They cast their clothes, the naughty flirts,
And lilted at it in their shirts."

"But withered hags, sly and insidious,
Unhanged old beldams, swarth and hideous,
Capering and floundering o'er a broomstick,
I wonder did not make thee homesick."

"'Well done, cutty sark,' he bellowed,
Thick darkness closed the scene unhallowed."

We have, perhaps, said enough to indicate the character of the work. It is only fair to add that in the instances where the original more easily lends itself to translation, the result is very creditable. Mr. Corbett's perform-

ance, however, only deepens the impression that to clothe Burns's Doric verse in any other than its native garb is to spoil it altogether. The volume is worth perusal, if for no other purpose than to tickle the risible faculties of those who know their Scots so well that they can appreciate the inadequacy of the English tongue to cope with the Doric in terseness, tenderness, and liquid melodiousness.

HISTORY OF GLENBERVIE,

BY

G. H. KINNEAR, DRUMLITHIE.

MONTROSE: PRINTED AT THE "STANDARD" OFFICE.

The inspiring motive of this volume, as Mr. Kinnear states in his preface, was the near approach of the centenary anniversary of the death of Burns, which appeared to him an opportune time to give some account of the past and present history of the parish from which sprung the family rendered world-famous by the genius of the great Bard. The result is a volume of 134 pp. of most readable and valuable matter bearing upon the topography, history, and traditions of Glenbervie, and accomplishing, in the most satisfactory manner, work which we have always considered ought, at the close of the century, to be undertaken for every parish in Scotland by way of extending and bringing up to date the invaluable statistical volumes of Sir John Sinclair. For Burns men the interest of Mr. Kinnear's book centres in the chapter devoted to the progenitors of the Poet, which in the preface is stated "to have been revised and in great part re-written by Mr. Edward Pinnington, from a series of copyrighted articles published by him some time ago in the *Glasgow Evening News* and *Montrose Standard*, under the title of "Burns in the North." Mr. Pinnington is also well known in Burns circles as the writer of the excellent article on the portraits of Burns, which recently appeared in the *Art Journal*. In the present issue of *The Chronicle*, Mr. Kinnear has condensed the chapter referred to in the article which appears under the heading "Glenbervie: The Fatherland of Burns," which, of course, renders detailed reference to it on our part redundant and unnecessary. In the published volume, however, the information is more minute, and is accompanied by a woodcut of the restored headstones of the Burnes family in Glenbervie churchyard. Apart from its Burnsiana, we cordially recommend Mr. Kinnear's contribution to the parochial history of Scotland as one of the most careful and well-arranged volumes of the kind which have fallen under our observation.

ROBERT BURNS AND DUMFRIES, 1796-1896. Compiled by
 PHILIP SULLEY, Fellow of the Royal Historical Society, and Hon.
 Secy. of the Dumfries Centenary Celebration, 1896. Dumfries—
 THOMAS HUNTER & CO., *Standard* Office.

THIS is a memento of the great demonstration which took place at Dumfries on 25th July, 1896, but Mr. Sulley has not confined himself to the details of that event, which were fully given in the last issue of the *Chronicle*. He gives most interesting and valuable information on "The Funeral of Burns," "The Widow of Burns," "The Mausoleum," "The Dumfries Burns Club," "The Centenary of 1859," and "The Dumfries Statue," in the treatment of which he lays the local press under contribution, as well as the minutes of the Mausoleum Committee and those of the Burns Club. The result is a mass of original matter, the bulk of which is nowhere else available in printed form. In the "Appendices" he preserves a list of the chairmen of the local Club from 1820, and also the playbill for the Mausoleum benefit nights. It will thus be seen that Mr. Sulley's book is a long way superior

to the usual type of the printed memorials of a local event. We notice a few slips, such as Gilbert's *first* appointment as factor in East-Lothian, which he owed to the Dunlop family, and not to the Blantynes. It is also inadvertently stated that "the portrait in Jean's possession," and now in the National Gallery, Edinburgh, is by *Raeburn*, instead of *Nasmyth*. There is, as yet, no published proof that Raeburn ever painted a portrait of the Poet, or even executed a copy. The book is neatly bound in imitation of the first Kilmarnock edition, and is good value for the money.

BURNS, EXCISE OFFICER AND POET.

By JOHN SINTON, Supervisor of Inland Revenue, Carlisle.

GLASGOW AND EDINBURGH: J. MENZIES & CO. LONDON: SIMPKIN, MARSHALL, HAMILTON, KENT & CO. (Fourth Edition).

MR. SINTON apparently never wearies in his labour of love. The task he set before him in his first essay, which took the modest form of a pamphlet, was the vindication of the Bard from the aspersions cast upon his character as an exciseman, and each succeeding edition has witnessed the gradual accumulation of a mass of evidence which completely exonerates the Poet from the charges his traducers have brought against him. The embellishment of the work has kept pace with its utility, this, the "Jubilee Edition," containing no fewer than seventeen well-executed illustrations and three *fac-similes*. That it has gone through so many editions in so short a space of time is the best proof of its qualities. Those who are not in possession of a copy should lose no time in procuring one.

THE BURNS CENTENARY IN THE POORHOUSE.

KIRKINTILLOCH: J. T. SMITH & CO.

THIS is a daintily got-up booklet to emanate from such an unpromising place as a poorhouse. It contains a poem in praise of Robin in five short cantos, written in the broadest Doric, in which the subject is brought quite up to date, and, as some may think, a little beyond it. The following may be taken as a specimen of the originality and freedom of treatment which run through the whole. Contemplating Burns in the "Land o' the Leal," the poet says:—

"I can see him, fine I see him
 (Wi' Imagination's e'e)
 Keeping douce celestial cronies
 Captivated wi' his glee;
 Ay, wi's wut and fun auld-farrant,
 Wilin' saunts to quat their sate,
 And ram-stam Apostle Peter
 To mislippen Heaven's gate.
 Noo he ca's on Jean and Mary
 For a sang o' aulden times,
 And the lilt o' 'Gala Water'
 Gangs like ane o' Zion's himes;
 Syne he's thanking Bruce and Wallace
 Hoo they dang the Southron lot,
 Noo, he's takin' sneesh wi' Shakespere
 Frae the mull o' Watty Scott;
 Noo he's quizzin' Eve and Aidam
 On their apple and their Fall,
 Syne he's het in argy-bargy
 Wi' the great Apostle Paul;
 Noo he's crackin' wi' King Dauvit,
 And comparin' sangs i' faith;

And maybe some mortal failin's
 That they kenn'd atween them baith;
 Noo divertin' wi' the lasses,
 Noo aff-takin' wi' the Deil;
 Haith, he's jist the same auld Rabbie
 In the Land o' the Leal."

From which lively sketch of a celestial "free-and-easy" it would appear there is not so much difference between Heaven and Earth as some people imagine. Peter must have been very remiss indeed when the Devil slipped in with a fresh supply of "sneeshin'" to "Watty," but perhaps the scene is laid in Purgatory, where more license is allowable. The author, however, is independent of criticism.

"I'm sae prood o't—truth to tell—
 That I couldna wait for creetics,
 But jist praised it up mysel'."

He tells us plainly that he is the "heirlin" of Burns's lyre, and the possessor of "the harp he haunle't." And yet there is a commendable modesty in the lines in which he naively sums himself up in this wise:—

"Shakespeare kens a' human natur';
 Scott a bonnie tale can tell;
 Byron's gran' wi' wut and passion,
 And I'm whiles gey guid mysel'."

Like all the singing fraternity, the author is poor, but the poverty of the poorhouse surely surpasseth that of Homer. He is evidently a rhyming Burns enthusiast fallen upon evil times, who deserves recognition at the hands of the Cult, before "it's far owre late, atweel," as he himself apostrophises in the fourth canto. If the local club would take the matter up, something might be done in the way of encouragement.

BURNS'S CLARINDA.

Brief Papers concerning the Poet's Renowned Correspondent. Compiled from various sources by JOHN D. ROSS, LL.D.

NEW YORK: THE RAEBURN BOOK COMPANY.

SINCE Dr. Currie, in one of his letters, dubbed her "that jade, Clarinda," explorers in the Burns field have thrown the clearest of lights on the nature of the connection that existed between Mrs. McLehose and Burns. The most valuable of these is the memoir by her grandson, which Dr. Ross has rightly chosen for the place of honour in his volume. Though there is nothing positively new in the rest of the papers selected, there is great advantage in having all the available information presented in collected form for purposes of comparison and correction. To have the opinions of such capable Burns men as Professor Blackie, Principal Shairp, Hately Waddell, Alexander Smith, and Dr. Adams, set down side by side, as in the handy volume before us, is something more than a mere convenience. The monographs on Burns celebrities already issued by the author, and of which the present is a continuation, supply a felt want, for the satisfying of which Dr. Ross deserves the thanks of every Burns student. His "Clarinda" is as well got up in typography and binding as the previous volumes, and the price is not the least of its recommendations. We commend it to the notice of all students and collectors.

BURNSIANA. Compiled by JOHN D. ROSS, LL.D.

PAISLEY: ALEXANDER GARDNER.

THIS "Collection of Literary Odds and Ends Relating to Robert Burns" has now reached the sixth volume, and still retains the excellence which characterised the earlier issues. The contents are as diversified and inter-

esting as ever, and include not only clippings from contemporary literature, but reproductions of not a few valuable notes from the rich, but comparatively inaccessible mine of the newspaper files. On a former occasion we gave it as our opinion that carefully selected extracts from these two sources opened up an inexhaustible and promising field for such a compilation, to which it could very well afford to confine itself exclusively. The present volume confirms that opinion. There is no comparison, in point of value, between the original contributions and those of the nature we have alluded to. All interested in Burns literature should have the full set upon their shelves. The typography is in Mr. Gardner's usual excellent style.

BONNIE JEAN.—A COLLECTION OF PAPERS AND POEMS RELATING
TO THE WIFE OF

ROBERT BURNS.

Compiled by JOHN D. ROSS, LL.D.

NEW YORK: THE RAEBURN BOOK COMPANY.

JUST as we are going to press, a copy of this book has reached us, the contents of which are so aptly described in the title as to require little further comment from us. It is the complement of what the author has already done for *Highland Mary* and *Clarinda*, to both of which it forms a companion volume. In bringing together and focussing in handy form all the authentic information we possess regarding Burns's heroines, Dr. Ross has done good work, for which he deserves the thanks of every one interested in the life and works of the Poet. The amount of labour saved to the student by having these volumes at hand is simply incalculable; they are besides eminently readable and interesting, in addition to their value as works of reference. The biographers of the Poet have all been laid under contribution in the present instance, as well as more recent explorers, the result being a perfect mine of information regarding *Jean Armour* presented in most convenient and compact form. The book is nicely bound in cloth, and is offered at a very moderate figure.

JOHN TAMSON'S BAIRNS, AND OTHER POEMS.

BY

THOMAS DUNLOP.

EDINBURGH: ANDREW ELLIOT.

By the publication of this volume, Mr. Dunlop has given ample evidence that he is possessed of a poetic genius of no mean order. The host of minor poets who ever and anon appeal for recognition at the hands of a discerning public are apt to engender feelings of impatience and surfeit in the minds of those whose melancholy duty it is to scan the interminable pages in search of merit. Mr. Dunlop is not, however, to be classed among the obscure and unknown. The principal poem in the volume has, if we mistake not, appeared in printed form before, and the "Centenary of Life, not Death"—a poem in praise of Burns—we thought so much of that we gave it a prominent place in last year's issue of the *Chronicle*. No similar composition which the great event of 1896 called forth can compare with it, and we question if anything better in its way has appeared within the century. "Robin Redivivus," an interview with the shade of Burns, is a clever piece of Doric versification, and so also is the "Two-handed Crack" between Tam o' Shanter and Souter Johnnie, the subject of conversation being the latter-day criticism of the Poet and his failings. These three pieces complete the list of Burnsiana in the volume, but they by no means represent in full the poetic gifts of the author. The lyric,

entitled "A Sair Heart," is full of pathos and tender feeling, and nearly every one of the shorter religious pieces merits a place in the Hymnal of any Church. As a specimen of the author's style and imaginative powers, we give two stanzas of the "Sair Heart":—

"Ae brown leaf quivers on the tree,
The wee bird sits and blinks at me,
Sae woefully, sae wearily ;—
The leaf is fa'en, the bird is gane,
The gloomy mirk and me alane,
Sae dolefully, sae drearily.

The leaf lies doon on Nature's breast,
The wee bird in it's sheltering nest,
Not woefully, nor wearily ;—
Oh, heart of mine ! there's welcome there,—
Gang home to God, and mourn nae mair
Sae dolefully, sae drearily."

We heartily commend Mr. Dunlop's poems to all of refined tastes and feelings, whether Burns worshippers or not.



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 | *London*: | Published by the Booksellers. | WILLIAM
 MILNER, *Halifax*. | 1838. | [18mo.]

THE | LIFE AND WORKS | OF | ROBERT BURNS |
 Edited by Robert Chambers | Revised by | William
 Wallace | In four volumes | W. & R. CHAMBERS, LIMITED
 | *Edinburgh and London* | 1896-97.

“During his life-time, Dr. Chambers accumulated much biographical and other material which, for reasons that the lapse of time has deprived of force, he was unable fully to utilise. The last forty years have also witnessed an extraordinary production of literature relating to the life and works of Burns; as a consequence, several poems and letters of the Poet have been discovered and published. . . . Under these circumstances, it has become desirable to issue a new and revised edition of Dr. Chambers's work, without departing in any important degree from its original plan.” — The work, in consequence, is much larger than the original Chambers *Burns*. Fresh information is given regarding several periods of Burns's life, including his brief time at Irvine, the Highland Mary incident, and the *liaison* with Anne Park. Among the letters here included for the first time in any edition of the Poet's *Works* are several contributed to two metropolitan newspapers, with which Burns engaged in controversy as to the authorship of some lines which had been foisted upon him. Some new information is also given as to Burns's connection with Peter Stuart of *The London Star*.

The work is illustrated by pictures by Messrs. C. Martin Hardie, W. D. McKay, R. B. Nisbet, G. Pirie, and G. Ogilvy Reid.

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 William Ernest Henley | and | Thomas F. Henderson
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V. 4.—Songs: Unauthorised Poems: Glossary: Indexes: with an Essay on the Life, Genius and Achievement of Burns by W. E. Henley.

“It is not forgotten that much has been foisted upon Burns which he did not write: nor that much which he wrote but did not approve—much, at all events, from which he withheld the sanction of print—has been

included in his published achievement in the course of years. And with a view to sundering, in so far as may be, the chaff from the grain, the editor's aims have been (1) to present a classic text; (2) to give the history and local setting of each piece, together with an explanation of chief allusions; (3) to compile a glossary that should enable the Southron reader to understand Burns (this glossary, for the sake of convenience, being made marginal); (4) to define and determine the relations of Burns to the past. All accessible manuscripts, and probable sources of information have been searched, so as to make this the standard edition for years to come."

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THE BURNS FEDERATION

INSTITUTED 1885.

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OBJECTS OF THE FEDERATION.

1. To strengthen and consolidate the bond of fellowship presently existing amongst the members of Burns Clubs, and kindred societies, by universal affiliation.
2. To superintend the publication of works relating to Burns.
3. To acquire a fund for the purchase and preservation of Holograph Manuscripts and other Relics connected with the Life and Works of the Poet, and for other purposes of a like nature, as the Executive Council may determine.

RULES.

1. The headquarters of the Federation shall be at Kilmarnock, the town in which the Federation was inaugurated and carried to a practical issue, and which contains the only properly organised Burns Museum and Library in the United Kingdom.
2. Properly organised Burns Clubs, St. Andrew's Societies, and Kindred Associations, may be admitted to the Federation by application, in writing, to the Hon. Secretary, enclosing copy of Constitution and Rules.
3. Registration Fee, *Twenty-one Shillings*, on receipt of which the Diploma of the Federation shall be issued, after being numbered and signed by the President and Hon. Secretary.

4. Members of every Burns Club, or Kindred Association, registered by the Federation, shall be entitled to receive a pocket Diploma on payment of *One Shilling*. (*These payments are final—not annual.*)
5. The Funds of the Federation shall be vested in the Executive Council for the purposes before-mentioned.
6. The Executive Council shall consist of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Federation, the President, Vice-President, and Secretary of each Affiliated Club, and other gentlemen of eminence nominated by the Executive.
7. A meeting of the Executive Council shall be held annually, at such place as may be agreed upon at the previous Annual Meeting, when reports of the year's transactions shall be submitted by the Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer.

BENEFITS.

1. Registered Clubs are supplied free with copies of newspapers, etc., containing accounts of meetings, demonstrations, etc., organised, conducted, or attended by the Executive of the Federation, and of the Annual Meeting of the Kilmarnock Burns Club—annual exchange of fraternal greetings on the Anniversary of the Poet's natal day.
2. Members of Registered Clubs who have provided themselves with Pocket Diplomas are entitled to attend meetings of all the Clubs on the Roll of the Federation, they being subject to the rules of the Club visited, but having no voice in its management, unless admitted a member, according to local form.
3. Members are entitled to be supplied, through the Secretaries of their respective Clubs, with copies of all works published by the Federation, at a discount of $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent.

BOOKS PUBLISHED BY THE FEDERATION TO BE HAD ON APPLICATION TO HON. SECRETARY.

BURNS HOLOGRAPH MANUSCRIPTS, in the Kilmarnock Monument Museum, with Notes. Edited by David Sneddon, Hon. Secretary Burns Federation. Price, 1s 6d. Cloth, with Gilt Title. Kilmarnock: D. Brown & Co. 1889.

BURNS CHRONICLE AND CLUB DIRECTORY.

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ALPHABETICAL LIST OF
FEDERATED CLUBS.

No. 40—Aberdeen	No. 5—Earlston
84—Abington	22—Edinburgh
23—Adelaide	44—Forfar
20—Airdrie	90—Garelochhead
2—Alexandria	3—Glasgow—Tam o' Shanter
6—Alloa	7 „ Thistle
82—Arbroath	9 „ Royalty
19—Auckland	24 „ Bank
12—Barrow-in-Furness	27 „ Springburn
64—Beith	33 „ Haggis
15—Belfast	34 „ Carrick
30—Blackburn	36 „ Rosebery
95—Bolton	38 „ Jolly Beggars
29—Bolton Juniors	39 „ St. David's
76—Brechin	41 „ Dennistoun
4—Callander	43 „ Northern
87—Campsie	47 „ St. Rollox
71—Carlisle	49 „ Bridgeton
81—Carstairs Junction	61 „ Glencairn
11—Chesterfield	63 „ Mossgiel
51—Chicago	67 „ Carlton
93—Clydebank	68 „ Sandyford
79—Corstorphine	70 „ St. Rollox Jolly Beggars
42—Crieff	74 „ Mauchline Society
66—Crossgates	78 „ Ardgowan
45—Cumnock	83 „ Co-operative
86—Cumnock—“The Winsome Willie”	88 „ Caledonian
62—Cupar	59—Gourock—Jolly Beggars
35—Dalry	53—Govan—Fairfield
55—Derby	21—Greenock
37—Dollar	96—Jedburgh
10—Dumbarton	92—Kilbowie
52—Dumfries “Mechanics”	0—Kilmarnock
14—Dundee	97 „ Wellbeck
69—Dunedin	58—Kirkcaldy
80—Dunoon (Cowl)	75—Kirk
85—Dunfermline—United	

No. 73—Lenzie
18—Liverpool
1—London

28—Mauchline — The Jolly
Beggars

8—Morpeth (dormant)
56—Muirkirk—Lapraik
65—Musselburgh

32—Newark
17—Nottingham (dormant)

48—Paisley
77—Paisley—Gleniffer
72—Partick

No. 26—Perth
54—Perth—St. Johnstone

31—San Francisco
91—Shettleston
13—St. Andrews
50—Stirling
89—Sunderland
16—Sydney

57—Thornliebank

94—Uphall

46—Warwickshire
25—Winnipeg
60—Wolverhampton



D I R E C T O R Y
OF
BURNS CLUBS AND SCOTTISH SOCIETIES
ON THE
ROLL OF THE BURNS FEDERATION, 1898.

- No. 0. KILMARNOCK Burns Club (Mother of the Federation). Instituted 1808. President, John Kerr, B.L., North Brae; Vice-President, Rev. Mr. Craig, B.D., Edgehill Manse; Secretary and Treasurer, A. Davidson, 58 Portland Street; Committee, David Sneddon, David Mackay, Duncan M'Naught, George Dunlop, Rev. Mr. Craig, Mathew Smith. 200 members.
- No. 1. LONDON Robert Burns Club. Instituted 1868. Federated in 1885. President, A. Macnaughton, 42 Gutter Lane, E.C.; Vice-President, Dr. Leslie Ogilvie, 46 Welbeck Street, Cavendish Square, W.; Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, W. C. Daniels, 85 Queen Street, Cheapside, E.C. Past Presidents, A. G. Soutter, Roseneath, 79 Bethune Road, Stamford Hill, N.; J. Buchanan, 20 Bucklersbury, E.C.; R. Macpherson, 337 Gray's Inn Road, W.C.; J. Young, 38 Hillfield Road, West Hampstead, N.W.; Dr. D. Menzies, 51 Marylebone Road, W.; P. E. Clunn, 9 Nevern Road, South Kensington, S.W. Committee of Management, R. Gunn Mackay, D. Duff, James Dickson, W. H. Pitman, R. S. Darling, R. W. Murray, Dr. Sturrock, A M'Killican, H. D. Colvill Scott, F. W. Warren, C. J. Wilkinson Pimbury, Henry Durham. 200 members.
- No. 2. ALEXANDRIA Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1885. President, John Sharpe, Bonhill; Vice-President, James M'Farlane, Linnbrane Terrace; Treasurer, Lachlan M'Kinnon, 1 Victoria Street; Secretary, Duncan Carswell, Linnbrane Terrace. 30 members.
- No. 3. GLASGOW Tam o' Shanter Club. Instituted 1880. Federated in 1885. President, Alex. W. Forbes, 404 Victoria Road; Vice-President, G. S. Galt, 239 Langside Road; Hon. Secretary, James Angus, 6 Gibson Street, Hillhead. Meet in Trades' House Restaurant, Glassford Street, on last Friday of each month, from November till May.
- No. 4. CALLANDER Burns Club. Instituted 1877. Federated in 1885. President, William Russell; Secretary, James S. Anderson, Callander.

- No. 5. **EARLSTON Burns Club.** Instituted 25th January, 1884. President, Thomas B. Murdison, High Street, Earlston; Vice-President, William Kerr, High Street, Earlston; Secretary and Treasurer, William Grieve, Station Road, Earlston; Committee, Adam Nichol, Alexander Bone, John Aitchison, James Haggan, Robert Douglass, John Stafford, George Miles, John Fox, Archibald Black, John Wight. 90 members.
- No. 6. **ALLOA Burns Club.** President, John Colville, Fenton Street; Vice-Presidents, Alexander Reid, Drysdale Street, and John Simpson, North Street; Treasurer, William Breingan, Coalgate; Secretary, Nicholas M. Davidson, 19 Greenfield Street. 30 members.
- No. 7. **GLASGOW Thistle Burns Club.** Instituted 10th March, 1882. President, William Weir, 69 Prince Edward Street, Crosshill; Vice-President, Jas. Mearchant, 3 Clelland Street, Hutchesontown; Treasurer, A. Kerr, 24 Thistle Street, S.S.; Secretary, John Peters, 150 Main Street, Anderston, Glasgow. Limited to 40 members.
- No. 8. **MORPETH AND DISTRICT Burns Club** (dormant). Last Secretary, John Dobson, Oldgate Street, Morpeth.
- No. 9. **GLASGOW Royalty Burns Club.** Instituted 1882. President, John Young, 42 Bath Street; Vice-President, Robert M. Renwick, Lyndale, Cambuslang; Treasurer, Thomas Graham, 11 Bothwell Street; Secretary, W. S. Ramsay, 6 Ruthven Street, Hillhead, Glasgow. 65 members.
- No. 10. **DUMBARTON Burns Club.** Instituted 1857. Federated in 1886. President, Bailie Barlas; Vice-Presidents, Councillor Macphie and Major Buchanan; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, James M'Gilchrist; Members of Committee, Provost Garvie, Dean of Guild Thomson, Councillor Dr. M'Lachlan, Councillor MacFarlan, Councillor Kirk, ex-Bailie MacLeod, ex-Dean of Guild Allan, Andrew Watson, and Walter Scott.
- No. 11. **CHESTERFIELD Burns Society.** President, Robert Howie, Ashgate Road; Vice-Presidents, D. S. Anderson, West Park; Dr. Goodfellow, Old Road, Brompton; Hon. Secretary, George Edward Drennan, 77 Salter Gate, Chesterfield, Derbyshire.
- No. 12. **BARROW-IN-FURNESS Burns Club.** Federated in 1886. President, Samuel Boyle; Secretary, Alexander M'Naught, 4 Ramsden Square, Barrow-in-Furness.
- No. 13. **ST. ANDREWS Burns Club.** Instituted 1869. Federated in 1886. President, John L. Macpherson; Vice-President, Michael B. Wilson; Secretary and Treasurer, William Brown, 116 South Street, St. Andrews. 100 members. Rooms, Royal Hotel. Poet Laureate, the Rev. Canon Tuttiott.
- No. 14. **DUNDEE Burns Club.** Instituted 1860. Hon. President, Sir John Leng, M.P.; President, Thomas Bennett; Vice-President, R. H. Robertson; Secretary, Edward Peill; Treasurer and Librarian, John Beat; Curator, John A. Purves; Committee, A. G. Macpherson, Hugh Ross, James Binny. Club Rooms, 36 Nethergate. 60 members.

- No. 15. BELFAST Burns Club. Instituted 1872. Federated 1886. President, W. H. Anderson, East Hillbrook, Holywood; Vice-President, Dr. Philip, 98 Great Victoria Street, Belfast; Secretary and Treasurer, James L. Russell, 21 Moyola Street, Belfast; Committee, James Jenkins, James Gemmell, A. W. Stewart, P. Galloway, T. E. Carlisle, William Campbell, A. M'Cowatt. 64 members.
- No. 16. SYDNEY Burns Club. Instituted 1880. Federated in 1886. President, Alex. Kethel, J.P.; Vice-Presidents, Jas. Muir and Thos. Lamond; Treasurer, W. W. Bain; Secretary, W. Telfer, School of Arts, Pitt Street, Sydney, N.S.W. 400 members.
- No. 17. NOTTINGHAM Scottish Society Burns Club (dormant). Federated in 1886. Last Secretary, D. Stuart Hepburn, 9 Wellington Circus, Nottingham.
- No. 18. LIVERPOOL Burns Club. Instituted 1877. Federated 1886. President, Hugh M'Whinnie, 30 Hampstead Road, Elm Park, Liverpool; Vice-President, Andrew Morton, 48 Trinity Road, Bootle; Secretary and Treasurer, Alexander Smith, 104 Salisbury Road, Wavertree. 70 members.
- No. 19. AUCKLAND Burns Club and Literary Society. Instituted 1884. Federated in 1886. President, James Stewart, C.E., Shortland Street, Auckland; Vice-Presidents, George Fowlds, James M'Farlane, A. Moncur; Treasurer, Charles Dunn, c/o Messrs. Brown, Barrett & Co.; Secretary, John Horne, Wellington Street; Committee, Alex. Wright, Arthur Dunn, William Moncur, Earnest Jones, William Stewart.
- No. 20. AIRDRIE Burns Club. Instituted 1885. Federated in 1886. President, William Sutherland; Vice-President, James Ramsay; Treasurer, David Johnstone; Secretary, James Sommerville, Royal Hotel, Airdrie. 55 members.
- No. 21. GREENOCK Burns Club. Instituted 1802. Honorary President, William Jacks, D.L. and J.P., Crosslet, Dumbarton; President, R. B. Shearer, Hartfell, Greenock; Vice-Presidents, Robert Caird, Newark Street, Greenock; Bailie M'Innes, Charing Cross, Greenock; Treasurer, A. T. Anderson, 21 Newton Street, Greenock; Secretaries, J. B. Morison, 55 Forsyth Street, Greenock; David Loudoun, *Glasgow Mail* Office, Greenock. Librarian, J. M. Farquhar, Ardgowan Square; Committee, R. Stewart Walker, Charles L. Brodie, Duncan Darroch, A. K. Bruce, H. M. Watson. Convener of Musical Committee, Robert Macfarlan, C.A., 45 Brisbane Road, Greenock. 300 members.
- No. 22. EDINBURGH Burns Club. Instituted 1858. Federated in 1886. President, Archibald Munro, M.A.; Vice-President, C. Martin Hardie, R.S.A.; Chaplain, Rev. A. Wallace Williamson, M.A.; Bard, Thomas Hepburn; Secretary, George A. Munro, S.S.C., 37 Castle Street, Edinburgh; Treasurer, J. A. Trevelyan Sturrock, S.S.C., 93 George Street, Edinburgh; Committee, Councillor Cranston, John Smart, R.S.A., Thomas Carmichael, James Tullo, James Grieve, Thomas Hepburn, Andrew Isles, J. M. Henry, Henry Kirkwood, James Ewing, Thomas Bonnar, Archibald Orrock, Alexander Anderson, W. Ivison Macadam, James Masterton, Peter L. Henderson, Dr. Kennedy Melville, Geo. T. Thin, Arch. Menzies, H. Erskine.

- No. 23. ADELAIDE South Australian Caledonian Society. Instituted 1881. Federated in 1886. Chief, John Wyles, J.P., Pirie Street, Adelaide; Chieftain, T.W. Fleming, Waymouth Street, Adelaide; Chieftain, Alex. Dowie, Rundle Street, Adelaide; Treasurer, D. W. Gray, Grenfell Street, Adelaide; Secretary, H. G. M'Kittrick; Society's Office Address, 70 Grenfell Street, Adelaide, S.A.; Hon. Auditors, D. Nicholson and A. Ronald Scott; Committee, D. W. Melvin, R. H. Crawford, Philip Tod, John Drummond, T. H. Smeaton, George Fowler Stewart, James Murray. Branches of the S.A. Caledonian Society established in Port Adelaide, Gawler, Mount Gambier, Port Augusta, Millicent, Port Pirie.
- No. 24. GLASGOW Bank Burns Club. Instituted 1844. Federated in 1886. President, William Bowie, 220 Buchanan Street; Vice-President, Robert Johnston, Spoutmouth; Treasurer, Alex. Gray, 97 Great Hamilton Street; Secretary, John Gentle, 116 Gallowgate, Glasgow. 150 members.
- No. 25. WINNIPEG St. Andrew's Society. Federated in 1886. Chief, W. A. Dunbar; Secretary, David Philip, Government Buildings, Winnipeg, Man. Rooms, Unity Hall, Hain Street.
- No. 26. PERTH Burns Club. Instituted 1873. Federated on 19th June, 1886. President, William Whitelaw, M.P. for Perth, Huntingtower Park, by Perth; Vice-President, Dr. Holmes Morrison, Marshall Place; Treasurer, William Stevenson, Balhousie Villas; Secretary, James Harper, 68 St. John Street, Perth. Meet in Salutation Hotel, Perth. 80 members.
- No. 27. GLASGOW Springburn Burns Club. Federated 1886. Hon. President, Greame A. Whitelaw, M.P.; President, Jas. Bryan; Vice-President, R. Kirkland; Secretary, William M'Bain, Janefield Cottage, Broomfield Road, Springburn, Glasgow. 37 members.
- No. 28. The JOLLY BEGGARS Burns Club, Mauchline. Instituted 23rd April, 1886. President, Richard Doherty, 27 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow; Secretary and Treasurer, David Hood, News-Agent, Mauchline—Committee, President, Secretary and Treasurer, Thomas Harvey, Thomas Learmont, William Alexander, James Young, Andrew Wilson, and Andrew Miller. 26 *active* members.
- No. 29. BOLTON Burns Club. Instituted 6th September, 1881. Federated in 1886. President, Peter Halliday, Jesmond House, Bolton; Vice-President, John Macfee, Russell Street, Bolton; Secretary and Treasurer, Chas. E. M'Nabb, 26 W. Bridge Street; Committee, Rev. T. B. Johnstone, John Watson, William M'Nabb, George Guthrie, John Boyd, John Graham, John Dickinson, George Begg. 50 members.
- No. 30. BLACKBURN Burns Club. Instituted in 1878. Federated in 1886. President, W. Ferguson, Ainsworth Street; Vice-President and Treasurer, William M'Kie, Wellington Street; Secretary, Robert M'Kie, Victoria Street, Blackburn. 20 members.

- No. 31. SAN FRANCISCO Scottish Thistle Club. Instituted 18th March, 1882. Federated in 1886. Royal Chief, W. A. Dawson, 1026 Scharo Street; Chieftain, J. Hill, 330 Golden Gate Avenue; Treasurer, John Ross, 26 Eddy Street; Recorder, George W. Paterson, 801 Guerrero Street. About 900 members.
- No. 32. NEWARK Caledonian Club. Federated in 1886. President, John Huggan; Treasurer, Paul Buchanan, corner of 16th Avenue and Bergen Street; Secretary, John Hogg, Caledonian Club, Newark, New Jersey, U.S.A.
- No. 33. GLASGOW Haggis Club. Instituted 1872. Federated in 1886. President, John B. McNaught, Stonefield Terrace, S.S.; Vice-President, ———; Treasurer, Thomas Macfarlane, 90 Regent Terrace; Secretary, R. J. Cameron, 212 St. Vincent Street. Meet in Mr. McCulloch's, Maxwell Street. 50 members (limited).
- No. 34. GLASGOW Carrick Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1859. Federated 15th January, 1887. President, D. Gordon; Treasurer, D. Norval; Secretary, John Newbigging, 25 Albert Drive, Crosshill. Meet in 62 Glassford Street, Glasgow, every Saturday, excepting the months of July and August. 40 members.
- No. 35. DALRY Burns Club. Instituted 1826. Federated in 1887. President, David Johnstone, Inspector of Schools; Vice-President, Robert Fulton, Writer; Secretary and Treasurer, Alex. Comrie, Accountant, Dalry, Ayrshire. This is the oldest known Burns Club with an unbroken record of its transactions to date. 30 members. The anniversary meeting is held on the Friday nearest 25th January.
- No. 36. GLASGOW Rosebery Burns Club. Instituted 1885. Federated in 1887. Patron, Right Hon. the Earl of Rosebery. President, Alexander Skirving, I.A., Chestnut Cottage, Langside; Vice-President, Robert Kennedy, 202 Hope Street; Treasurer, Hugh Sturdy, 39 Kilmarnock Road; Secretary, James Angus, 22 Ratho Terrace, Springburn, Glasgow; Minute Secretary, Alex. Miller, 17 Overnewton Square; Committee, James S. Fisher, J. S. Jamieson, Wm. Kennedy, James Wilson, H. P. Bayne. 148 members.
- No. 37. DOLLAR Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated in 1888. President, John McGruther; Vice-President, Dr. Strachan, Gladstone Terrace; Treasurer, John Fleming, Mayfield; Secretary, W. G. Cruickshank, Aberdona Villa, Dollar. 40 members.
- No. 38. GLASGOW "Jolly Beggars" Burns Club. Federated in 1888. Vice-President, David Caldwell; Secretary, Jas. Gillespie, jun., 80 Gloucester Street, Glasgow.
- No. 39. GLASGOW "St. David's" Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated in 1889. President, Henry Cowan; Secretary, Alex. Porteous, 5 March Street, Strathbungo, Glasgow. Meetings held at 163 Ingram Street, Glasgow.

- No. 40. ABERDEEN Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated in 1889. President, James M'Intosh, 50 Mushit Hall.
- No. 41. DENNISTOUN Burns Club. Instituted 1886. Federated in 1889. President, Thomas Baxter; Vice-President, W. Williamson; Secretary and Treasurer, John B. M'Intosh, 300 Duke Street. Club Room, Loudon Arms Hotel, Glasgow. 25 members.
- No. 42. CRIEFF Burns Club. Federated in 1891. President, Malcolm Finlayson, Solicitor; Vice-President, W. Duncan, Royal Hotel; Secretary, Wm. Pickard, Writer, Crieff.
- No. 43. GLASGOW Northern Burns Club. Federated in 1891. President, Peter R. MacArthur, 11 Randolph Place, Mount Florida; Vice-President, John S. Hunter, 33 West Princes Street; Treasurer, John Duncanson, 90 North Frederick Street; Secretary, James Weir, 216 New City Road; Committee, James M'Lay, Mr. Machie, C. Demangeat, William Reid, A. B. Mitchell, Alex. MacLaughlan, R. W. French. 80 members.
- No. 44. FORFAR Burns Club. Instituted 1890. Federated in 1891. President, John Ferguson, Allan Bank; Vice-President, George S. Nicolson; Treasurer, Andrew Rennie; Secretary, Henry Rae, 14 Montrose Road, Forfar. 150 members.
- No. 45. CUMNOCK Burns Club. Instituted 1887. President, D. A. Adamson, Solicitor, Glaisnock Street, Cumnock; Secretary and Treasurer, Matthew Brownlie, Coilantogle, Cumnock; Committee, Wm. Wallace, ex-Provost Hunter, Bailie Andrew, Wm. Hill, Mr. Hogg. 70 members.
- No. 46. WARWICKSHIRE Burns Club. Instituted 1888. Federated in 1891. Treasurer and Secretary, Robert Greenfield, F.R.H.S., Ranelagh Nursery, Leamington. 70 members.
- No. 47. GLASGOW - ST. ROLLOX Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated in 1891. President, Robert Carruthers, 45 Glenfield Street; Vice-President, John Chalmers, 35 Tennant Street; Treasurer, D. Crawford, 100 Taylor Street; Secretary, Thomas Paton, 32 Frazer Street, Bridgeton; Committee, Robert Paul, Thomas Smith, J. Cameron, T. King, G. Stevenson; Auditors, G. Blair, A. M'Cormick. 30 members.
- No. 48. PAISLEY Burns Club. Instituted 1805. Federated in 1891. President, James Ross, Fetteresso, Castlehead, Paisley; Vice-President, George H. Cockburn, 8 Buchanan Terrace, Paisley; Secretary and Treasurer, James Edward Campbell, M.A., B.L., Writer, 3 County Place, Paisley. Limited by Constitution to 40 members.
- No. 49. BRIDGETON Burns Club. Instituted 1870. Federated in 1891. President, A. J. Bain, 7 University Avenue; Vice-President, Wm. Freeland, 34 Garturk Street, Govanhill; Treasurer, Wm. Campbell, 32 Monteith Row; Secretary, William Cochran; Assistant Secretary, W. Stevenson Cochran, 175 West George Street, Glasgow; Committee, Rector Menzies, J.P.; James Young, Andrew Hoy, W. S. Service, James Murray, William Armour, Dr. Munro, Wm. Rodger, A. Johnston. 304 members.

- No. 50. STIRLING Burns Club. Federated in 1891. President, Dr. Macnab; Secretary, J. L. Hutcheson, *Journal* Office, 5 King Street, Stirling.
- No. 51. CHICAGO Caledonian Society. Instituted 1883. Federated in 1892. Chief, Hugh Shirlaw; Chieftain, F. D. Todd; Treasurer, Angus Maclean; Secretary, Charles T. Spence, 3002 Wabash Avenue, Chicago. 197 members. Society meets 1st and 3rd Thursdays in each month in Hall, 1-85 E. Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.
- No. 52. DUMFRIES Mechanics' Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated in 1892. President, John Mundell, West Park Terrace, Maxwelltown; Vice-President, James Turnbull, 3 Henry Place, Dumfries; Treasurer, Archibald Fairley, 29 Wallace Street, Dumfries; Secretary, James Anderson, 13 St. Michael Street, Dumfries; Committee, James Baxter, Thomas Paterson, John Kemp, John M'Kinnell, John Hunt, George Crichton, James Douglas. Club meets every Saturday evening in Liver Inn, Nith Street. 60 members (limited).
- No. 53. FAIRFIELD Burns Club, Govan, Glasgow. Instituted 1887. Federated in 1892. Honorary President, Hugh Lymburn, Mayfield Cottage, Govan; President, George Sinclair, 118 Harmony Row, Govan; Vice-President, Duncan Calder, 1135 Dumbarton Road, Whiteinch; Treasurer, Hugh Marr, 37 White Street, Govan; Secretary, James M'Cartney, 4 Barnwell Terrace, Drumayne, Govan. 54 members.
- No. 54. ST. JOHNSTONE Burns Club, Perth. Instituted 1892. Federated in 1892. President, Councillor Charles Wood, Brunswick Terrace; Vice-President, Alex. Patterson, County Place Hotel; Secretary and Treasurer, Thomas Macgregor, 15 Balhousie Street; Committee, James Martin, Wm. Angus, James Rutherford, James M'Intyre, Alexander Mulholland, George Young, John Kerr.
- No. 55. DERBY Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1891. Federated in 1893. President, W. H. Cunningham; Vice-Presidents, Dr. Brown and J. M'Donald; Joint-Secretaries, George M'Lauchlan, 49 Molineux Street, and George Kelman; Treasurer, A. L. Cunningham, 54 Sadler Gate, Derby. 100 members.
- No. 56. MUIRKIRK Lapraik Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated in 1893. President, A. B. Fulton, Irondale House; Vice-President, Thomas Weir, Main Street; Hon. Treasurer, James Young, Main Street; Hon. Secretary, John M'Donald, Furnace Road; Committee, D. Samson, Jas. Samson, Andrew Pringle, Robert Vallance, James Guthrie, Hugh Cameron, William Walker. 58 members.
- No. 57. THORNIEBANK Burns Club. President, J. L. Connor, North Park, Thornliebank; Vice-President, Harry Wilkie, Eastwood Park, Giffnock; Treasurer, David Marshall, Thornliebank; Secretary, Malcolm Jamieson, Main Street, Thornliebank; Committee, Wm. Stark, Wm. Jamieson, George Neil, Robert Scott, Walter M'Farlane, Wm. Graham, Andrew Mathieson, Wm. Paterson, W. Hutchison, R. Dalziel, James M'Allister, John Ewing, David Leggat, Donald Jamieson, Alexander Strang. 134 members.

- No. 58. KIRKCALDY Burns Club. Federated in 1893. President, A. B. Cooper, Douglas Street; Vice-President, Charles Robertson, 130 Links Street; Secretary, Robert Grant, Hill Street; Treasurer, John A. Millar, 2 School Wynd.
- No. 59. GOUROCK "Jolly Beggars" Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated in 1893. President, Provost Steel, Gourrock; Vice-President, David Malcolm, 20 Shore Street; Treasurer, William Lee, jun., Mather House; Secretary, James Shearer, Gourrock House Agency, Kempock Street, Gourrock. 60 members.
- No. 60. WOLVERHAMPTON Burns Club. Instituted 1891. Federated in 1893. President, James Corson, 20 Cleveland Street; Vice-President, Thos. Graham, J.P., Comely Bank, Parkdale; Treasurer, Wm. Forsyth, 34 Stafford Street; Secretary, James Killin, Beechgrove, Compton Road, Wolverhampton. 84 members.
- No. 61. GLASGOW Glencairn Burns Club. Instituted 1890. President, Robert Corbet, 2 Ardgowan Terrace; Vice-President, James Jamieson, 13 Commerce Street; Treasurer, W. F. Hutchison, 220 Paisley Road, West; Joint-Secretaries, James Laing, 218 Watt Street, and John M. Picken, 375 Paisley Road, Glasgow. Meet at 375 Paisley Road. 46 members (limited to 60).
- No. 62. CUPAR Burns Club. Instituted 25th October, 1893. President, H. T. Anstruther, M.P., Gillingshill, Pittenweem, Fife; Vice-Presidents, Thomas R. Nichol, Station Agent, and Philip Sulley, County Assessor, Cupar-Fife; Treasurer, John Moore, Crossgate, Cupar-Fife; Secretary, John G. Stewart, North Union Street, Cupar-Fife. 75 members.
- No. 63. GLASGOW Mossiel Burns Club. Instituted 1893. President, J. M. Cowden; Vice-President, D. Anderson; Treasurer, R. Blair; Secretary, J. M. Blair, 186 Cumberland Street, S.S., Glasgow. 50 members.
- No. 64. BEITH Burns Club. Instituted 1892. President, Archd. M'Ewan, Knockdale; Vice-President, D. Lapraik Smith, Arranview; Treasurer, John Short, Main Street; Secretary, James S. Anderson, Craigwell. 30 members.
- No. 65. MUSSELBURGH Burns Club. Federated in 1894. President, John Dobbie, Dalrymple Loan; Vice-President, A. M'Farlane, Newbigging House; Treasurer, Will. Constable, Inveresk Terrace; Secretary, Wm. Hood, 23 High Street; Committee, R. Millar, R. Bissett, J. Graham, W. D. Husband, W. Walker, T. A. Hogg, R. A. Smith, J. M. Williamson. 120 members.
- No. 66. CROSSGATES Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated in 1894. Secretary, William Muir, Back Street, Crossgates. Meet in Crossgates Hotel. 110 members.

- No. 67. GLASGOW Carlton Burns Club. Instituted and Federated, 1894. President, Andrew Barclay, 10 Lorne Terrace, Maryhill; Vice-President, James G. Hendry, 36 Cumberland Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, James Milligan, sen., 2 South Portland Street, Glasgow; Secretary, John F. Robertson, 36 Cumberland Street, South, Glasgow; Director of Music, James Gould; Bard, Carl Volti; Roll-keeper, Wm. Crawford; Directorate, Thomas Cameron, M. F. Hill, H. A. Sharp, J. Hamilton, A. Fergus, A. M'Clure, C. Masters, J. Milligan, jun., G. Stark. Annual general business meeting held in February. 80 members.
- No. 68. GLASGOW Sandyford Burns Club. Instituted 1893. President, James Boyd; Vice-President, Archibald Black; Treasurer, Thomas C. Watson; Secretary, Alexander Hedderwick. 213 members.
- No. 69. DUNEDIN Burns Club. Federated in 1894. President, Dr. W. M. Stenhouse; Vice-Presidents, John B. Thomson and James Muir; Treasurer, John Scott; Secretary, William Brown. 400 members. Meetings held on the third Wednesday of every month in the Choral Hall, Dunedin, and on the 25th January, annually. The largest hall in Dunedin is filled to overflowing.
- No. 70. GLASGOW St. Rollox "Jolly Beggars" Burns Club. Instituted 1893. President, William Eyre, 77 Taylor Street; Vice-President, William M'Kay, 101 Castle Street; Treasurer, John Docherty, 21 St. Mungo Street; Secretary, Matthew Ferguson, 64 St. James' Road, Glasgow.
- No. 71. CARLISLE Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1889. Federated 1895. President, James A. Wheatley, J.P., 8 Portland Square, Carlisle; Vice-Presidents, Dr. Bira, 8 Brunswick Street; G. White, 8 Botchergate; John Sinton, 39 Cavendish Place; W. D. Todd, Stanwise; Secretary and Treasurer, David Burns, Stanwise, Carlisle; Committee, Messrs. Wm. Mather, John Jardine, Lyon, Bowman, Malcolm, Tinnerwood, Horn, Buckle. 100 members.
- No. 72. PARTICK Burns Club. Instituted 1885. Ex-President, Dr. Gilbert Campbell; Vice-Presidents, Provost James Caird, Collingwood, and J. Parker Smith, M.P., Jordanhill; Treasurer and Secretary, Ronald Stout, 178 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow. 113 members.
- No. 73. LENZIE Burns Club. Instituted 1894. Federated in 1895. President, Wm. Gibson, Bower Cottage, Lenzie; Vice-President, John Walker, Eden House, Lenzie; Secretary and Treasurer, James Ferguson, Rathmore, Lenzie.
- No. 74. GLASGOW-MAUCHLINE Society. Instituted 1888. Federated in 1895. President, Marcus Bain, Woodside, Mauchline; Treasurer, Thomas Killin, 168 West George Street, Glasgow; Secretary, W. S. M'Millan, Wellington Chambers, Ayr; Committee, Office-Bearers and 14 Directors. 60 members.

- No. 75. KIRN Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1892. Federated on 10th February, 1896. President, Provost Doig, Dunoon; Vice-President, Commissioner Bennett, Stronan Lodge, Kirn; Treasurer, John Kesson, Adelaide Cottage, Kirn; Secretary, John T. Johnston, Auld House, Kirn.
- No. 76. BRECHIN Burns Club. Instituted January, 1894. Federated in 1896. President, George A. Scott, Park House; Vice-President, W. J. W. Cameron, Castlevue House; Treasurer, A. J. Dakers, High Street; Secretary, Edward W. Mowat, Park Place. Committee, David Joe, William Davidson, James Bruce, John Lindsay, Alexander Smith. 230 members
- No. 77. PAISLEY-GLENIFFER Burns Club. Federated in 1896. President, J. Wallace, Braehead; Vice-President, Coun. Pollock, Garthland House; Treasurer, Wm. Bell, Newhall Villas, Glenfield; Secretary, Alex. R. Pollock, 12 Garthland Street, Paisley.
- No. 78. GLASGOW-ARDGOWAN Burns Club. Instituted 8th March, 1893. Federated in 1896. President, Dr. J. F. Stevenson, 176 Castle Street; Vice-President, John Brown, 1 Surrey Place; Treasurer, John M'Auslan, 126 Crookston Street; Secretary, John Fairley, 160 Cathcart Street, S.S.; Committee, Duncan Gilchrist, J. Samson, William King, William Murdoch, Alex. Wigham, A. K. Downie, J. Johnstone.
- No. 79. CORSTORPHINE Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated in 1896. President, Peter W. Leslie, Fernlea, Corstorphine; Vice-President, Andrew Macdougall, Willowbank, Corstorphine; Secretary and Treasurer, William R. Murray, Inglewood, Corstorphine; Committee, John Darge, James L. Foulds, Geo. Goodall, Hugh C. Kerr, David P. Laird, James Matthew, Hugh Paterson, David J. Younger. 70 members.
- No. 80. DUNOON-COWAL Burns Club. Instituted 2nd March, 1896. President, John Reid Young, Garail; Vice-President, Commissioner Crosbie, Hillfoot Street; Treasurer, William Munn, Argyle Street; Secretary, Walter Grieve, James Place, Dunoon. 224 members.
- No. 81. CARSTAIRS JUNCTION Burns Club. Federated in 1896. Hon. President, James Hozier, M.P.; President, John Cowper; Vice-President, George Martin; Bard, Alexander Blake; Treasurer, James Shaw; Secretary, William Neill, Burnside Cottages, Carstairs Junction. 47 members.
- No. 82. ARBROATH Burns Club. Instituted 1888. Federated in 1896. President, James B. Salmond, Editor of *Arbroath Herald*; *ex officio* Hon. Vice-Presidents, Right Hon. John Morley, M.P.; Hon. Charles Maule Ramsay, Brechin Castle; Captain Sinclair, M.P.; Provost Grant, Arbroath; Hon. Fred. J. Bruce, of Seaton; Colonel Auchterloney, of The Guynd; Charles W. Cossar, Seaforth; Fitzroy C. Fletcher, of Letham Grange; John Tullis, Glasgow; Alex. Gordon, of Ashludie; W. K. Macdonald, Town Clerk, Arbroath; Vice-President, John Russell, M.D., Hill Terrace, Arbroath; Treasurer, George R. Donald, Solicitor, 81 High Street, Arbroath; Secretary, Adam Oliver, S.S.C., Brothock Bank House, Arbroath; Committee, ex-Bailie Herald, Arbroath; J. R. W. Clark, Geo. R. Thomson, Norman M'Bain, David Littlejohn, David Fairweather, James Jack, C. Y. Myles, A. D. Lowson, R. S. Carlow, Charles Wilson. 40 members.

- No. 83. **GLASGOW** Co-operative Burns Club. Federated in 1896.
President, William Miller; Vice-President, J. Jeffrey Hunter;
Secretary, R. Reyburn, 20 Great Clyde Street, Glasgow.
- No. 84. **ABINGTON** Burns Club. Instituted 1886. Federated in 1896.
President, James Paterson, Over Abington; Vice-President,
William Clark, Glengounarfoot; Treasurer, Thomas Smail,
Commercial Bank; Secretary, Robert Colthart, Arbory Villa,
Abington. 87 members.
- No. 85. **DUNFERMLINE** United Burns Club. Federated in 1896.
President, Thomas Jackson; Secretary, Wm. Fraser, Free-
Abbey School, Dunfermline. 24 members.
- No. 86. **CUMNOCK** "Winsome Willie" Burns Club. Instituted 1856.
Federated in 1896. President, James Findlay, Douglasston
Cottage, Cumnock; Vice-President, James Howat, Cairn
Road, Cumnock; Treasurer, John Wilson, Waterside Row,
Cumnock; Secretary, Robert Hyslop, Ayr Road, Cumnock;
Committee, Hugh Fleming, James Chisholm, James Gordon,
John M'Kenzie, James Garrie. 62 members.
- No. 87. **CAMPSIE** Burns Club. Instituted 1890. Federated in 1896.
President, Major R. Stirling, Union Place, Lennoxtown;
Vice-President, James Simpson, Main Street, Lennoxtown;
Treasurer, John M'Donald, Service Street, Lennoxtown;
Hon. Secretary, Jas. Simpson, Main Street W., Lennoxtown;
Committee, George Miller, Robert Downie, Peter M'Kellar,
Peter Kincaid, W. B. M'Farlane, Andrew Hosie, William
Richmond. 40 members.
- No. 88. **GLASGOW** Caledonian Burns Club. Federated 1897. President,
Thomas Higgins; Vice-President, Alex. Russell; Treasurer,
James Nisbet; Secretary, John Magarry, 38 Annette Street,
Crosshill, Glasgow. Meeting place, George M. Nicol's, 25
Caledonian Road, S.S., every alternate Thursday.
- No. 89. **SUNDERLAND** Burns Club. Hon. President, Alderman W.
Burns, Esq., J.P., ex-Mayor; Hon. Vice-Presidents, William
Allan, M.P.; Dr. Waterston, Esq., J.P.; Councillor Dr.
Biggam, Durward Lely; President, W. H. Turner; Vice-
President, T. E. A. Shaw; Treasurer, A. Cameron;
Secretary, M. Neilson, 2 Rosebery Street, Sunderland;
Committee, George Tawse, George Mackay, W. Miller, S.
Murray, R. Cooke.
- No. 90. **GARELOCHHEAD** Burns Club. Federated in 1897. President,
Thos. Stobo, Somerset House, Garelochhead; Vice-President,
Wm. M'Call Maitland; Secretary and Treasurer, John Currie,
Stationmaster, Garelochhead.
- No. 91. **SHETTLESTON** Burns Club. Federated in 1897. President,
Jas. Wilson, Bute Villa, Shettleston, near Glasgow; Secretary,
James Clark, 1 York Terrace, Shettleston, near Glasgow.

No. 92. **KILBOWIE** "Jolly Beggars" Burns Club. Instituted and Federated in 1897. Hon. Presidents, Hugh Tennant and Dr. J. Stirling Robertson; President, John M'Pherson; Treasurer, Andrew Ross; Secretary, John W. Stocks, 1 Livingstone Street, Kilbowie. 50 members.

No. 93. **CLYDEBANK** Burns Club. Federated in 1897. President, William Butchart, 6 Cameron Street, Clydebank; Secretary, John Murphy, c/o James M'Haffy, 2 Kilbowie Gardens, Clydebank.

No. 94. **UPHALL** "Tam o' Shanter" Burns Club. Federated in 1897. Secretary and Treasurer, J. Brodie, Uphall, Linlithgowshire.

No. 95. **BOLTON** Burns Club. Federated in 1897. President, George Begg, Spa Road, Bolton; Secretary and Treasurer, Charles E. M'Nabb, 26 Hr. Bridge Street, Bolton.

No. 96. **JEDBURGH** Burns Club. Federated in 1897. President, L. G. Macdonald, St. John School, Jedburgh; Secretary, J. K. Young, Sessional School-House, Jedburgh.

No. 97. **KILMARNOCK** Wellbeck Burns Club. Instituted and Federated 1897. President, John Anderson, Robertson Place; Vice-President, George Richmond, Paxton Street; Treasurer, James Thomson, Armour Street; Secretary, Jas. Carson, 22 Gilmour Street, Kilmarnock; Committee, John Thomson, Alexander Dunlop, William Duff. 27 members (limited to 30). Meetings at Bellfield Tavern, Wellbeck Street, first Friday of each month.



1898 REGISTER OF BURNS CLUBS

AND OTHER

SCOTTISH SOCIETIES

NOT ON THE ROLL OF THE FEDERATION.

ALBANY (U.S.A.) Caledonian Club. Instituted 1874. Secretary, James H. Hendrie. 90 members.

ASHINGTON Burns Club. Secretary, Alex. Duncanson, Ashington, Morpeth.

AYR Burns Club. Hon. Secretary, George Bain, Smith's Cottage, Ayr.

BALERNO Burns Club. Instituted 1881. Secretary, John Fairbairn, Balerno. Meeting Place, Balerno, Midlothian. 30 members.

BARLINNIE (near Glasgow) Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Hon. President, Robert Ford, Dennistoun; President, John Scott, Woodbank, Barlinnie, near Glasgow; Vice-President, John Dean, Barlinnie, near Glasgow; Treasurer, Ernest Will, Barlinnie, near Glasgow; Secretary, John Panton, Woodbank, Barlinnie, near Glasgow. 70 members.

BARRHEAD "Tam o' Shanter" Club. Secretary, John M'Whirter, Gateside, Barrhead.

BATHURST, N.S.W., Burns Club. Secretary, William Ferrier, Piper Street.

BATTLE CREEK (Mich.), Clan Macdonald. Secretary, Frank Reid, 34 Irving Street, Battle Creek, Mich., U.S.A.

BAY CITY (Mich.), Clan Forbes. Secretary, George E. Smith, 509 Eleventh Street.

BAY CITY (Mich.), St. Andrew's Society. Secretary, G. A. Wilson, Bay City, Mich., U.S.A.

DLINGTON and District Burns Club. Secretary, John Tate, Bedlington Iron Works, Northumberland.

BELFAST Benevolent Society of St. Andrew. Instituted 1867. Secretary, John Boyd, 2 Corporation Street. 140 members.

- BELLSHILL** Burns Club. Secretary, John Murdoch, Commercial Place, Bellshill.
- BERWICK-ON-TWEED** Burns Club. President, John Barr, Main Street, Tweedmouth; Joint Secretaries, S. E. Simpson, West Street, Berwick; James Irvine, Knowehead, Tweedmouth, Berwick.
- BRANTFORD (U.S.A.)** Burns Club. Secretary, Joe J. Inglis, jun., Brantford, America.
- CALEDONIAN** Society of Homestead, Pa. Instituted 1894. Secretary, William Thomson, Box 18, Homestead, Pa. 70 members.
- CAMBUSLANG** Burns Club. Secretary, George Johnston, Excelsior Villa, Cambuslang.
- CARDIFF** Burns Club. Instituted 1891. Secretary, W. W. Pettigrew, Roath Park. 40 members.
- CLAN CAMERON**, Canada (No. 7) Order of Scottish Clans. Instituted 1883. Chief, Wm. Forsyth, 293 Douglass Avenue; Secretary, James Shaw, Victoria Avenue, Cranston, R.I.
- CLAN FRASER**, Canada (No. 11) Order of Scottish Clans. Instituted 1884. Secretary, John Birtwell, 9 Lockbridge Street, Pawtucket. 90 members.
- CLAN MACKENZIE**, St. John, Canada (No. 96) Order of Scottish Clans. Instituted 1891. Secretary, Joseph A. Murdoch, 23 Carmarthen Street. 80 members.
- CLAN MACKINLAY** Association. Instituted 1893, at Chicago, Ills. Secretary, Main B. M'Kinlay, Paris, Ills.
- COATBRIDGE** Burns Club. President, James Davidson, Academy Street; Secretary and Treasurer, J. Milne Boyd, Solicitor, Church Street, Coatbridge.
- COWPEN**, The Sydney Burns Club. Secretary, John Harrison, Kitty Brewster, Cowpen, Northumberland.
- CRAIGNEUK** Burns Club. Secretary, William M'Millan, 3 Shieldmuir, Motherwell.
- DENNY** Burns Club. Instituted 1895. Hon. President, Rev. A. O. M'Gregor, E.C. Manse, Denny; President, John Scott, Dryburgh, Denny; Secretary and Treasurer, James Scott, Bank View, Denny. 46 members.
- DETROIT** (Mich.), Clan Cameron. Secretary, A. W. M'Nair, 12 Woodward Avenue.

- DOUGLAS Burns Club. Secretary, G. Torrance, North Quay, Douglas, Isle of Man.
- DUBLIN St. Andrew's Society. Secretary, J. C. Anderson, 37 College Green, Dublin.
- DUMFRIES Burns Club. Secretary, H. S. Gordon, Solicitor, Mount Brae, Dumfries.
- DUMFRIES Burns "Howff" Club. Secretary, John Conner, care o. Mrs. Smith, Globe Hotel, Dumfries.
- DUMFRIES "Wale of Good Fellows" Club. Secretary, Robert Bower, 4 Ramsay Place, Dumfries.
- DUNOON Haggis Club. Instituted 1896. Secretary, Archibald Ferguson, Church Street, Dunoon. 88 members.
- DUNS Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Secretary and Treasurer, John M'K. M'David, Schoolhouse, Gavinton, Duns. 60 members.
- EDINBURGH Ninety Burns Club. President, Dalziel Pearson, W.S., 27 Royal Terrace; Secretary and Treasurer, John A. Clues, 10 Dublin Street.
- EDINBURGH (Portsburgh) Burns Club. Instituted 1894. Treasurer and Secretary, James M. Sibbald, 13 Calton Hill. 30 members.
- EDINBURGH (South) Burns Club. Treasurer and Secretary, James Granger, 16 Melville Terrace, Edinburgh.
- FORT WAYNE (Ind.) Caledonian Society. Secretary, William Lawson, Fort Wayne, Ind., U.S.A.
- GALASHIELS Burns Club (dormant). Secretary, James Wilson, 25 Channel Street, Galashiels.
- GIRVAN, The Carrick Burns Club. Secretary, Andrew Robertson, The M'Kechnie Institute, Girvan.
- GLENCAIRN CAMP (No. 139) Sons of Scotland. Instituted 1894. Chief, Donald M'Taggart; Chieftain, Thomas H. Watson; Treasurer, John G. Innes; Secretary, James Watson, Sonya.
- GLENPATRICK Burns Club. Secretary, John Carson, 27 High Street, Johnstone.
- GOREBRIDGE Burns Club. President, C. C. Baik, J.P., Gorebridge; Secretary and Treasurer, H. M. Forrester, Gorebridge.
- HAMILTON Burns Club. Instituted 1877. Secretary, T. A. Robertson, Quarry Street, Hamilton. Meets in Commercial Hotel, Hamilton. 120 members.

HAMILTON "Glencairn" Burns Club. Secretary, Gavin C. Prentice, 28 Woodside Walk. Club meets at 49 Campbell Street.

HAMILTON Junior Burns Club. Instituted 1886. Secretary, William Wilson, 56 Miller Street. 30 members.

HAMILTON Original Burns Club. Secretary, James Eglinton, 32 Hope Street.

HAMILTON (Ont.) Clan M'Kenzie Club. Secretary, James M'Kenzie, 202 Fay Street, South.

HAWICK Burns Club. Secretary, Henry Flockhart, 4 Earl Street, Hawick.

HULL Burns Club. First instituted 1863; re-formed 1892. Secretary, J. Hy. Rea, 17 Fountain Street, Hull. 250 members.

ILLINOIS Clan Macgregor, No. 66 O.S.C. Instituted 1890. Secretary, John Hall, 1202 South Vermillion Street. Meet in German Odd-fellows' Hall, 107 Main Street, Streatar. 52 members.

INNERLEITHEN Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Treasurer and Secretary, James Mitchell, Hall Street, Innerleithen. Meet in Volunteer Arms Hotel. 37 members.

IRVINE Burns Club. Hon. Secretary, James Dickie, Town-Clerk, Irvine.

JOHNSTONE Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Secretary, Charles A. George, Ann Street. 85 members.

LADIES' SCOTTISH CLUB of Rochester, N.Y. Secretary, Katharine Ross, 74 East Avenue. 50 members.

LEITH Burns Club. Secretary, William Wilson, 21 Panmure Place, Edinburgh.

LINLITHGOW Burns Club. Secretary, John Patrick Hardy, 34 Kelvin-side Gardens, Glasgow.

LONDON (Ont.) Clan Fraser. Secretary, John G. Jones, 241 Queen's Avenue.

MANCHESTER and Salford Caledonian Association. Secretary, Duncan MacLean, 4 Longford Place, Victoria Park, Manchester. 260 members.

MELROSE Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Treasurer and Secretary, Thomas H. Smart, St. Dunstan's Place, Melrose. 50 members.

- MELROSE ABBEY CAMP Sons of Scotland. Instituted 1892. President, Thomas Haddow; Treasurer, C. A. Crosbie; Secretary, R. L. Innes. Sirncoe.
- MILNGAVIE Burns Club. Instituted 1886. Secretary, Wm. M'Kenzie, 83 Hall Place, Milngavie.
- MILWAUKEE (Wis.) St. Andrew's Society. President, Wm. Currie; Secretary, Robert P. Fairbairn, Milwaukee, Wis., U.S.A.
- MONTREAL Clan MacIennan. Secretary, George G. Barry, 40 Inspector Street.
- NEWBURGH Burns Club. Instituted 1890. Secretary and Treasurer, Peter Anderson, Newburgh. 36 members.
- NEWCASTLE and TYNESIDE Burns Club. Secretary, P. Bell, 7 Holly Av., West. Meet in Hotel Metropole, Clayton Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 200 members.
- OBAN Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Secretary, Thomas Boyd, 5 George Street. 40 members.
- OVERTOWN Burns Club. Instituted 1870. Secretary, George M'Dougall, Durham Bank Orchard. 23 members.
- TANNAHILL-MACDONALD Club. Instituted 1874. President, Robert Adam, jun., 1 Union Avenue, Newton, Ayr; Vice-President, James S. Anderson, 36 New Sneddon Street, Paisley; Treasurer, William Berry, 8 Kelvinside Road, Paisley; Secretary, R. Lauchlan, Rosencath Cottage, Paisley. 30 members.
- PATERSON (N.J.) Caledonian Club. Secretary, Archibald M'Call, 131 North Ninth Street, Paterson (N.J.), U.S.A.
- PHILADELPHIA Burns Association. Secretary, George Goodfellow.
- PHILADELPHIA Burns Statue Association. Instituted 1893. Secretary, J. W. R. Collins, Broad Street Station.
- PHILADELPHIA Caledonian Club. Instituted 1859. Chief, Malcolm Henry; Second Chieftain, Jas. Irvine; Third Chieftain, Hugh Tulloch.
- PHILADELPHIA Clan Cameron. Instituted 1890. Chief, John Thom; Secretary, Geo. R. Stewart.
- PHILADELPHIA Scots Thistle Society. Instituted 1796. President, Andrew Lockerbie; Secretary, Joseph Fergusson.

PHILADELPHIA St. Andrew's Society. Instituted 1749. President, John Ferguson; Vice-Presidents, G. W. Hall and Dav. Milne; Treasurer, Alex. Harding; Secretary, Peter Boyd.

PHILADELPHIA Tam o' Shanter Club. Instituted 1883. President, John Dalc; Treasurer, William M. Collins; Secretary, Robert Smith.

PITTSBURGH (Pa.) Waverley Society and Burns Club. Secretary, Robert Thomson, Pittsburgh, Pa., U.S.A.

POLLOKSHAWS Burns Club. Instituted 1886. President, James Macdougall, J.P., 4 Grantly Gardens, Shawlands; Secretary, James Murray, 91 King Street, Pollokshaws. 60 members.

PORTOBELLO Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Secretary, Wm. Baird, F.S.A. Scot., Clydesdale Bank. 66 members.

POSSILPARK Burns Club. Instituted 1892. President, D. T. Macdonald, 180 Saracen Street; Secretary, Hugh P. Simpson, 44 Bardowie Street. 70 members.

PROVIDENCE Clan Cameron. Secretary, James Shaw, 28 Bishop Street, Providence, Rhode Island, U.S.A.

PROVIDENCE Caledonian Society. Secretary, George Gibb, 408 Chalkstone Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island, U.S.A.

RENFREW Burns Club. President, Robert Lang, 3 Manse Street; Secretary, Archibald Buchanan, 27 Queen Street, Renfrew.

SCOTTISH THISTLE Club of Ottawa, Ills. Instituted 1894. Secretary and Treasurer, Wm. E. W. MacKinlay, Post Office Block, Ottawa, Illinois, U.S.A. 60 members.

SIR WM. WALLACE CAMP Sons of Scotland, Kingston, Ontario, Canada. Recording Secretary, J. R. Massie.

ST. ANDREW'S Society of Bay County. Instituted 1890. Secretary, G. A. Wilson, Bay City, Mich. 67 members.

ST. JOHN, N.B., Clan Mackenzie. Secretary, Joseph A. Murdoch, Haymarket Square.

STOW Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Secretary, Wm. H. Cook, Fountainhall, Midlothian. 45 members.

THAMES (Auckland) Burns Club. Secretary, John Gibb, Gas Works, Thames, Auckland, N.Z.

WATERBURY (N. H.) Burns Club. Secretary, W. H. Callan, 495
Washington Avenue.

WEST BAY CITY (Mich.) Clan Fraser. Secretary, John Kennedy,
510 N. Chilson Avenue.

WOODSTOCK (Ont.) Clan Sutherland. Secretary, C. W. Oliver.

YONKERS (N. Y.) The Robert Burns Club. Secretary, Kenneth M'Kay,
9 Poplar Street.



ANNUAL
Burns Chronicle
AND
Club Directory.

(INSTITUTED 4TH SEPTEMBER, 1891.)

Edited by D. M'NAUGHT, Kilmaurs.



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PREFACE.

As one of the principal intentions of the Federation in founding the *Chronicle* was the establishment of a permanent record of current Burns events, no apology is necessary for the amount of space devoted in this issue to the proceedings at the inauguration ceremonies which occurred during the year.

The desire to complete the Earnock MSS. within as short a compass as possible has necessarily curtailed the space at our disposal. The earliest convenient opportunity will be taken of printing the Bibliographical material which has been accumulating on our hands since the interruption occasioned by the Death Centenary editions chronicled in our last.

We beg to congratulate the members of the Federation on their very successful and enjoyable meeting at Mauchline, and to express the hope that the fixture at Dumfries will be as well attended.

We again return our warmest thanks to our contributors, but for whose kindly assistance and advice the editorial functions could not have been so profitably discharged. The continued success of the *Chronicle* is largely owing to their spontaneous efforts.

D. M'NAUGHT.

BENRIG,
KILMAURS, 1st January, 1899.

THE EARNOCK MANUSCRIPTS.

DR. CURRIE'S EDITION OF BURNS.

IN last year's issue of the *Chronicle* we printed the part of the Earnock MSS. which deals more particularly with the edition of Currie published under the supervision of Gilbert Burns. This year we submit the remainder of the collection, which bears almost exclusively, as will be observed, on the Liverpool edition and its earlier reprints. Four letters at the end throw some light on "Cromek's Reliques," published in 1808, and afterwards issued as a supplement to the original four volumes of Currie's edition. A letter from Mr. Roscoe to Cadell & Davis and the reply thereto, both of which seem to have got mixed up with the Cromek correspondence, are here given first as an addendum to last year's instalment. In reply to "St. Bride" and other correspondents, we regret to say that we have nothing to add to what has already appeared. The illness of Sir John Watson, which resulted in his death in September last, precluded any application for a further loan of the volumes for the purpose of checking the work of the amanuensis more carefully than was within our power when we went to press last year. It is possible that errors and omissions may have crept in, but if so, our readers may rest assured that they are of minor importance. The collection does not pretend to be complete. The task of selection, moreover, is rendered more difficult than it would have been had the more important documents been arranged in more orderly sequence, and not been interrupted so frequently by the interjection of dissimilar matter of less value, though mayhap of coincident date. As aids towards filling up any gaps observable in the dates, we beg to direct attention to the letters dated 25th June, 1816; 9th December, 1817; 16th July, 1818; and June, 1819, which appear in the present issue under the heading of the Thomson Correspondence.

The two letters which immediately follow would have been in more appropriate position on p. 18 of our last issue, immediately before Gilbert Burns's letter of 26th November, 1816.

MR. ROSCOE TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Liverpool, 6th November, 1816.

Gentlemen,—I lately met with Mr. Wordsworth's letter respecting Dr. Currie's "Life of Burns," which has given me very great concern, not only on account of the manner with which the work is treated, but as it seems to suggest the expediency of either dismissing it altogether from the situation it has so long held, as prefixed to the works of Burns, or, at least, of accompanying it with notes to correct (as Mr. Wordsworth suggests) its misrepresentations and expose its exaggerations. This advice is virtually given to Mr. Gilbert Burns, who, I understand, is now engaged in preparing a new edition of the works of his late brother, which, I presume, is the same as that which you mentioned to me some time since. If this be the case, I shall feel confident that nothing shall be done but what will be respectful and honourable to the memory of my late lamented friend, and as I am far from supposing that the subject is not capable of further elucidation, or that Mr. Gilbert Burns, both from his own talents and his near relationship to the Poet, is not more able to give it than any other man now living, I shall rejoice that the work has fallen into such hands. If, however, it should appear that Mr. Wordsworth's advice is to be followed, and that Dr. Currie's narrative is to be discredited and himself represented as having *sacrificed the Poet's memory almost without compunction*, I shall feel myself called upon to come forward as the vindicator of his labours, which after having contributed to the welfare and support of the Poet's family, and obtained a high degree of public estimation for their author, ought not at this distance of time, to be impeached without such a justification of his motives and conduct, as I conceive I have it completely in my power to give. That you will fully enter into and participate my feelings, I have not the least doubt, and I have therefore to request you will favour me with a line in reply to remove the apprehensions I feel, in which case I shall not think Mr. Wordsworth's letter entitled to further notice.—I am, etc.,

W. ROSCOE.

CADELL & DAVIES TO MR. ROSCOE.

London, 9th November, 1816.

Dear Sir,—We are just favoured with your letter on the subject of Mr. Wordsworth's to Mr. Gilbert Burns, and we avail ourselves of a hasty opportunity to assure you that we have ever been and will continue to be as strictly careful of the attention due to the purity and ability of our late highly respected friend Dr. Currie's *Life of Burns* as our own sense of its value unquestionably demands.

We have not yet seen Mr. Wordsworth's letter, nor have we heard from

Mr. Gilbert Burns for a considerable time past, but, whatever may be intended by them, we can safely undertake to assure you, as we now do, that nothing shall be printed or published by us respecting Dr. Currie's edition without its being previously submitted to your inspection.

On some early occasion, we shall again have the pleasure of addressing you, and, in the meantime, we beg you to believe us, etc.,

CADELL & DAVIES.

CADELL & DAVIES TO DR. CURRIE.

13th December, 1797.

Dear Sir,—We are favoured with your letter descriptive of the intended publication of the posthumous works of poor Burns, and lose no time in assuring you of our readiness to receive subscriptions, and to do everything else in our power to promote its success. It appears to us that the contents of the volume will be much more miscellaneous and interesting than will be generally expected, and we therefore submit to you whether it might not be advisable to add to the proposals a prospectus of the work. We also earnestly recommend that no subscriptions be depended upon but those which come accompanied by the money, and that after “Price one guinea in boards,” *to be paid at the time of subscribing* be inserted in the proposals. This, we well know, will save an infinity of trouble, and persons disposed to subscribe will as readily give their guineas as their names in the first instance. Printed receipts must, therefore, be put into the hands of each party receiving subscriptions. We will take an early opportunity of mentioning the business to Messrs. Nicol & Edwards, but have little doubt of their willingness to receive subscriptions, and otherwise serve the work. Mr. Creech's name, too, we think, should also appear, and we recommend that before the names of the booksellers, those of Mr. Cunningham and of Mr. Syme should be retained, together with the addition of such other gentlemen as interest themselves for the family, and would undertake to receive subscriptions. It is not for us, dear Sir, to say that you ought also to come forward as editor, but we must be permitted to observe that, in our opinion, your doing so would essentially benefit the subscription. No further alteration in the proposals suggests itself to us at present, but if you will do us the favour of transmitting us a proof, with such alterations as you shall think proper to adopt, we shall by that time have seen Messrs. Nicol & Edwards, and also have turned the matter further in our own minds, when we may perhaps use the freedom of recommending some new alterations. The next step will be to advertise the proposals in the London, Liverpool, and Edinburgh papers.

A Mr. Lawrie of this city, a friend of Burns's family, and who told us he had collected a good many guineas, called upon us about three weeks ago respecting this business. It then appeared to us that quarto was not the proper size, but we have since thought differently, on the ground that for no other size could a guinea with propriety be demanded.

It may not be amiss to mention to you, even in this early stage of the business, as it will have the effect of relieving Mrs. Burns and her friends

from any anxiety about the expenses of the edition, that, as her friends will most probably recommend it to her to dispose of the copyright of these posthumous works, and as we shall be very ready to treat for it, our taking upon ourselves the discharge of Mr. M'Creery's bill, etc., might perhaps form the best basis of an agreement; but of this hereafter. With kindest compliments to our truly respected friend, Mr. Roscoe.—We are, etc.,

CADELL & DAVIES.

DR. CURRIE TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Liverpool, 30th December, 1797.

Dear Sir,—I should not have been so late in answering your obliging letter of the 13th had I not entertained the hope of settling the different particulars to which it refers in a personal interview. For the last fortnight I have been watching an opportunity of withdrawing from Liverpool, that I might spend a week in the Metropolis, a pleasure that the engagements of my profession have compelled me to postpone from day to day, and at length, though with great reluctance, to abandon for the present.

I agree with you in the propriety of adding a prospectus to the proposals, and your recommendation that the subscriptions be paid for in advance is decisive. Your wish that Mr. Creech's name should be added to yours and those of the respectable gentlemen in London we before mentioned, is my wish also. It is said there is some difference between our high-souled Poet and Mr. Creech, and some of Burns's friends have a notion that Mr. Creech did not use him liberally. For my own part I have found the correspondence among Burns's papers, and I see no proof of any ill usage. The Bard indulged occasionally in sarcasms against men of character, yet I can discover that his deliberate opinions were the result of a judgment profound and nearly unbiassed, and differing much from the effusions of his sensibility. Among the Edinburgh characters drawn by him, I think I can discover that of our friend Creech (for the names are not at length in his Diary), and, if I do not deceive myself, it is a capital likeness, and, on the whole, favourable. I would have shown you this had I made good my purpose of visiting London, but I cannot send it.

Be so good as to mention the matter to Creech. I believe him to be a gentleman in the best sense of the word, and I am confident that he will be ready to assist the widow and children of Burns, whom he patronised when he was himself friendless; and then if he have been ruffled by his sarcasms (which I do not know to have been the fact), that he will offer up his resentment on the tomb of the extraordinary Genius that excited it. Be pleased to fix this point with him. Is Mr. Elphinstone Balfour your correspondent? He has been very obliging on the occasion. Might not his name be joined to that of Mr. Creech? But I leave this to you. It is a part of the business that I am anxious to be wholly relieved of.

In regard to the *prospectus*, I apprehend one might be drawn from my last letter, of which I have no copy. I apprehend, however, that I did not express myself with sufficient caution, and that the colouring was too vivid. We must not excite unreasonable expectations. I will, before I

close this, endeavour to draw up something that may be printed, which I will enclose. . . . Since writing the above I have made out a rough draught of the proposed prospectus, which I enclose. Will you have the goodness to criticise it fully? and to return it with your observations. M'Creery wishes to print these proposals by way of giving a specimen of what he can do. They shall be returned with all speed (when executed) by the coach. I confess to you that I am very impatient of all this part of the business, which I expected would have been wholly undertaken by others, and you will oblige me by taking it as much as possible off my hands.

If I had been in London I could easily have arranged the matter of getting some respectable gentlemen to allow their names to appear as receiving subscriptions, but I cannot do it by letter. I hope it is not too much to request you to manage this matter. I presume on your zeal to serve the family of poor Burns.—I am, etc., J. A. CURRIE.

DR. CURRIE TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Gentlemen,—According to the intimation I gave you, I beg leave now to consult you respecting the publication of the posthumous works of poor Burns.

Dumfriesshire, in which this singular Genius spent the last years of his life, is my native county, and there my original connections chiefly reside. There I saw Burns in the year 1792, but my intercourse with him was transient. One of the friends he made there, Mr. Syme of Ryedale, collector of the stamp-duty for the southern district of Scotland, was *my* early friend, and on the death of the Bard wrote to interest me for his helpless family. It would be a tedious tale to explain to you how, from offering my assistance to Mr. Syme, as editor of the posthumous works, I have been led, step by step, to become the editor myself, and to engage in a task foreign to my habits, and to which my talents may be disputed. Suffice it to say that I have engaged in the business with extreme reluctance, and not till I was assured that all attempts to procure a respectable editor in Scotland had wholly failed. I shall have much trouble, and the consciousness of assisting the family of a man of genius will be my sole recompense. I shall, however, have the counsel and assistance of my excellent friend, Mr. Roscoe, whenever I require it; and every co-operation from the zeal of our printer, M'Creery—himself a man of genius, an idolater of Burns, and perfectly acquainted with the idiom in which he wrote.

The brother of the Poet and Mr. Syme (trustee for the family) have arranged the MSS., and written notes of explanation where these are required. They have been here, and, in concert with Mr. Roscoe and myself, framed the enclosed hand-bill, which will explain the plan of the intended publication. Hand-bills of this kind have been partially circulated in some parts of Scotland, and in Liverpool, and upwards of 200 subscriptions are procured, or rather *have been offered*. The hand-bills were not printed till about ten weeks ago, and there is every appearance that if properly managed the subscriptions may be made very large. In the Metropolis

nothing has been done, but after the Christmas recess some ladies of fashion and influence have promised to exert in the *haut ton*.

It is necessary, however, that some gentlemen or gentleman in your situation should undertake the business of receiving subscriptions, and this I beg to propose to you. I thought also of requesting Mr. Nicol and Mr. Edwards to receive subscriptions also, unless it would be more agreeable to you to undertake the business alone. If you engage in it, you would consider it as in the usual line of trade, and for any expenses you may incur previous to the publication I will secure your indemnification. We wish you to consider the printed proposals, and to suggest any alteration that you may think would promote the object in view. Do you approve the publication being in 4to.? This has been objected to; but it is supposed that one edition in 4to. might be sold by subscription, and afterwards the work formed into two octavos corresponding to the volumes of the printed work. In this plan, we considered only how best to relieve the widow and orphans from penury and distress. Profit, of course, was our object. Will you have the goodness to consider it in this point of view? We are yet entirely open to your observations. The following particulars will convey to you a more precise idea of the volume and its contents.

M'Creery's printing you know. He has got new types and new ink for Burns's works, and he swears the typography shall rival that of Shakespeare or Milton, of Bensley or Bulmar.

2. The head of Burns will, I am told, be in a superior style of excellence, and offers have been made of drawings for other engravings descriptive of scenery and manners, which, however, on account of the expense, we hesitate at present to accept.

3. The first part of the volume will consist of the life of Burns, in which the earlier part of his history will be more particularly dwelt on. His brother has furnished very ample materials for this, and among the MSS. there is a life written by himself, which includes the whole of the period before his going to Edinburgh, and which will be found in a high degree interesting. For his conduct while in Edinburgh materials are found in the letters of some of the first literary characters there, who have come forward very handsomely in giving their observations; and for the latter part of his life, where we must tread rapidly and lightly, abundant information is procured from Mr. Syme and others. In the course of the biography it is proposed to introduce some details respecting the character and manners of the Scottish peasantry, with some observations on the music and national songs; and this will naturally introduce a critique on the character of Burns as a poet. To this will probably be added some general observations on the *poetical character*, and the sins which particularly beset it. I have no notion to what extent all this will go, but I think it will not be in narrower limits than the longest of Johnson's lives—that of Savage.

4. The next part will consist of his correspondence. Of this upwards of 200 original letters are collected of various merit, but some of them excellent. A selection of these, in the order of their dates, will prove very interesting, and give the progress of his mind. A considerable portion of

this correspondence is addressed to ladies—to ladies of character and taste. Here the delicacy of his correspondents restraining his exuberances, the letters are in general unexceptional. He also corresponded with some of our first literary characters, where his letters are, of course, correct, and some of these (Dr. Blair, Dr. Gregory, Mr. Frazer Tytler, etc.) having permitted their own letters to the Bard to be inserted with his to them, this circumstance will add something to the intrinsic value, and a great deal to the reputation and respectability of the volume. The letters, and the correspondents of Burns just mentioned, contain chiefly criticisms on his printed poetry, and advice as to the future application of his talents.

5. But the most valuable part of the volume will be the correspondence between Burns and Mr. George Thomson, of the Trustees' Office, Edinburgh. This last gentleman, a man of taste and literature, has undertaken to publish the most valuable of the Scottish airs, with accompaniments by Pleyel. As many of these airs have very inadequate words, he applied to our Bard to furnish new ones, and he has furnished them accordingly. To the words which he sent Mr. Thomson often took the liberty of objecting, and Burns sometimes admitted, sometimes repelled his objections. This produced a correspondence of great length, and, in my eye, of the utmost interest, in which Burns unfolds his principles of taste, and enters on the nature of lyric poetry. This correspondence extends to ninety-two numbers. It would itself form a moderate octavo; and, to render it complete, Mr. Thomson has permitted his own letters to appear as far as they are necessary to explain those of the Bard; and the letters of Mr. T. are themselves very good. His conduct in giving up this treasure to the family is deserving of every praise. We purpose to publish this correspondence precisely as it stands at present—that is Burns's letters containing the songs as they were written, Thomson's replies, and Burns's rejoinders. Over and above other attractions, they will afford some fine specimens of criticism.

The greater part of these songs have never seen the light. They are in general of extraordinary excellence. A few have forced their way into the public papers, such as "Bruce's Address to his Troops," etc., and the exquisite song in praise of Scotland, beginning "Their groves of green myrtle." In my judgment, no poet since Anacreon has risen so high in lyric poetry as these songs will place Burns.

6. There are a number of other poems—some serious, some comic—many of them unfinished, which, however, have the impression of the Bard's genius, and may with propriety be published in whole or in part.

There are various unfinished diaries, and some very deep and affecting meditations, which will afford considerable material; and there are sketches of living characters in Edinburgh drawn with a masterly hand, which without some management (favourable as they generally are) cannot well be published. There are also an immense collection of poems by others presented to the Bard, some of them descriptive of the Scottish manners and in his own style, from which, if necessary, addenda may be selected for the volume. But this will not be necessary.

I have only to observe, farther, Burns has left no political writings,

though his sentiments on politics are occasionally visible in his letters, but never so as to give offence; and that, by the particular desire of his family, everything will be suppressed that can give offence to individuals, as well as these effusions which may put real modesty to the blush.

Thus, gentlemen, you have a general view of the intended publication, and you will very particularly oblige me, by your advice and assistance how to promote it. Greatly distressed as I am for leisure, I could get forward with the mere editorship, but I have no time nor talent for the correspondence requisite for promoting the subscription, and am ignorant of the best mode of managing it.

If you have no objection to receiving subscriptions, etc., you may show this letter to Mr. Nicol and Mr. Edwards, to whom I will write on receiving your answer. It will enable you and them to give such farther information as to the intended publication as persons proposing to subscribe may require.

I commit this to the post, in full confidence that you will charge the expense in my account. . . . —I am, etc., J. A. CURRIE.

P.S.—Roscoe joins me in all good wishes. I will hope for your answer as soon as convenient. Dr. Gregory, Dr. Blair, etc., must not have their names brought before the public.

CADELL & DAVIES TO DR. CURRIE.

13th January, 1798.

Dear Sir,—Since we were favoured with your last letter we have written to Mr. Creech on the subject, and received his answer, which informs us that whatever little difference subsisted between Burns and him had been made up long before the Bard's death, and that he shall do everything in his power to serve the family. Indeed, when we were ourselves in Scotland, about fifteen months ago, we found Creech very active in collecting subscriptions. We cannot have the smallest objection to Mr. Balfour's name also appearing, but the rather recommend it. Mr. Creech mentions Dunlop & Wilson's as a proper house at Glasgow; perhaps it might also be proper to add Mr. Mundell's name there. At Aberdeen we recommend Mr. Brown. Mr. Edwards and Mr. Nicol most readily agree to the subscription of their names with ours. So much for the booksellers. We have seen Mr. Lawrie, who has no objection to making one in the list of gentlemen, and he gave us hopes of obtaining permission from Mr. Heron and one or two others, but, though this was ten days ago, we have not since seen or heard from him.

It appears to us that the prospectus you have sketched will do extremely well. We have in one place drawn a line under a repetition.

DR. CURRIE TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Liverpool, 29th January, 1798.

Gentlemen,—In consequence of your letter of the 13th, I wrote immediately to Mr. Peter Lawrie, requesting to know whether he had

obtained permission of Mr. Heron for the insertion of his name in the proposals, but have never received any answer. As the press was standing still, and the subscription in Manchester, etc., was kept back by the want of the prospectus, I ventured to insert the name of Colonel Fullarton, a personal friend and acquaintance of Burns, and one who has, by letter subsequent to his death, expressed in the warmest terms his wish to serve the family. I took the speediest method of acquainting the Colonel with this freedom, and I trust he will excuse it. But, if he does not, you will have received information by Mrs. Riddell before this arrives, and will please to follow her directions. The proposals, with printed receipts, will reach you on Thursday morning. You will please to furnish Mr. Nicol and Mr. Edwards with such a proportion as you see fit, and to dispose of the rest to the best advantage—by sending some to Mr. Creech, etc., with the receipts. We shall keep a sufficient number for Lancashire and Dumfriesshire. . . . I am, etc.,

J. A. CURRIE.

P.S.—We have 400 subscribers for Burns; the names shall be transmitted.

Several estimates of the cost appear to have been made out, of which the following may be taken as a sample:—

BURNS.

Printing 108 sheets, No. 2000, at 40s, ...	£216	0	0
Paper, 432 rms., at 34s.	734	8	0
Portrait Engraving, Working, and Paper, ...	35	0	0
Advertising, etc.,	64	12	0
Boarding 500 for author, 1s 4d,	33	6	8

£1,083 6 8

500 Author.

1,500 sold at 20s,	£1,500	0	0
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2,000 Profit, ...	416	0	0
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From which deduct cash to be paid, £250 0 0

2ND ED.

Printing 2000 and Paper, as above, ...	£950	0	0
Working Portrait and Advertisements, ...	50	0	0

£1,000 0 0

2,000 sold at 20s,	£2,000	0	0
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To be paid on this Edition,	200	0	0
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£1,800 0 0

Profit,	£800	0	0
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DR. CURRIE TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Gentlemen,—I enclosed your letter to me to the trustees for Mr. Burns's family, with a proposition which Mr. Roscoe and myself were disposed to make to you, founded on the basis that you had mentioned, viz., of Mrs. Burns receiving the price of the copyright in a certain number of copies of the works free of expense. Their answer has been some days received, but I have not had time sooner to write, in consequence of it, from different causes.

The trustees are not willing to make a bargain of this nature. They are desirous of transferring to you the whole right of the posthumous works for a sum to be stipulated, transferring also the subscriptions, which are now numerous and very respectable, and which may be made more so, if that were an object to you as purchasers, which I really think it is not, for you will find that the works as a whole will attract not present sale only, but a permanent one.

Would you have the goodness, then, to consider what sum you would venture to give, taking the property on yourselves, and arranging the present copyright with Mr. Cadell, jun., and Mr. Creech, so as to leave no obstruction to a complete edition, which cannot appear at anyrate long before this copyright will expire?

It seems to me that, should any copies of the recent edition* remain at the time of publishing the complete works, their sale may be ensured by printing an equal number of copies of the posthumous works only (on the same type) separately, to unite with them, cancelling only the title pages of the printed volumes; but, in truth, I cannot believe this to be any object. In conversation with Mr. Roscoe, we agreed to mention the following terms for your consideration:—

To give a thousand pounds for all the unpublished MSS., etc., of Burns, no part of this sum to be paid for _____ years, but the interest to commence from the 1st of next January, and the principal to be paid by instalments as the children come of age.

To have the whole subscription transferred to you, and a copyright of all the works to be published now, and also of such other works, or part of works, as though not fit for present publication, the family may think admit of being published at some future time, subject to your discretion.

In this case I will undertake to get the publication forward as fast as my engagements will permit, requiring no other advantage than a certain number of copies (say twenty or thirty) for presents.

I confess to you this business hangs heavy upon me, and I sincerely wish some arrangement of the kind I mention to take place.

But however clear my judgment is that the proposal I submit would be a prudent one for you to accept, I feel a difficulty in urging all the reasons that weigh with me on the subject, from the degree in which my own exertions are involved.

I lament the want of a personal interview.

* A reprint of the Edinburgh edition in two volumes was issued in 1797.

Mr. Roscoe had thoughts of being in London at this time, but is disappointed. I will beg of him to say a few words from himself on this occasion, which will be inclosed in the frank which covers this. . . .

In great haste, etc.,

J. A. CURRIE.

P.S.—Please to let me have your sentiments without reserve, and any other proposition that occurs to you, or any modification of this. I proposed to the trustees that a proposition should be made to you to transfer the copyright, etc., to you for a thousand copies of the poems, free of expense. They are alarmed about the condition of taking off the hands of Mr. Cadell and Creech their unsold copies.*

CADELL & DAVIES TO DR. CURRIE.

6th February, 1798.

Dear Sir,—We are favoured with your letter of the 20th ult., and have received the parcel of proposals and receipts, which are highly creditable to Mr. M'Creery's press. Since we had the pleasure of writing to you we have seen Mrs. Riddell and Mr. Lawrie, from both of whom we find that we had better not make any further use of the names of either Mr. Heron or Colonel Fullarton, though we dare say the latter will readily excuse the insertion of his in the proposals. Our plan, therefore, is to advertise the intended publication in the best London papers, retaining in the advertisement all the names which now appear in the proposals, except Colonel Fullarton's and Mr. Lawrie's, for which we are to substitute those of two banking houses—one in the city, the other in the west-end of the town—to be arranged by Mr. Lawrie. We will take care to send a number of proposals and receipts to Mr. Creech and the other booksellers in Scotland, and otherwise to distribute them to the best of our judgment. . . . Please to present our kindest remembrances to Mr. Roscoe, and believe us, dear Sir, etc.,

CADELL & DAVIES.

DR. CURRIE TO CADELL & DAVIS.

Liverpool, 8th February, 1798.

Gentlemen,—Your favour of the 6th is before me. By to-day's post I have also received a letter from Mrs. Riddell, conveying a message to me from Colonel Fullarton, by which he consents, in the handsomest manner, to his name standing as it does in the proposals, and promises a warm co-operation in the business of the subscription. He has also transmitted to me an elegiac poem, by Mrs. Fullarton, on the death of our Bard, to be inserted, with other poems to his memory, in our proposed volume. I beg, therefore, that whatever names may be used, the Colonel's may be retained. He knew Burns well, and has it in his power to serve his family. He represents the Bard's native county, which is at length stirring in the

* The copies referred to in note *supra*.

business of the subscription, and there and throughout Scotland Fullarton's name will be of much use. Probably before this arrives you will have seen the Colonel or Mrs. Riddell, and have been informed of his zeal to co-operate with us. Mr. Lawrie, by a letter I have from him to-day, is also willing that his name should remain. The proposals, therefore, need not be altered. But you may make such additions in the newspaper advertisements as you see fit to the names already inserted. These points, however, I give an opinion on only, and submit the decision to yourselves. The subscriptions are now nearly 500, but the names are not all come in. You shall have them transmitted to you very soon. . . . In regard to your very liberal offer as to the expense of the posthumous volume, Mrs. Burns and the executors are disposed to avail themselves of it. I trust that by our co-operation we shall lift this family from the ground, and give the five infant sons a chance in the world, which their poor father never had. Mr. Roscoe unites with me in best wishes, and in very sincere esteem.—I am, etc.,

J. A. CURRIE.

DR. CURRIE TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Liverpool, 14th May, 1798.

Dear Sirs,— . . . I have in the course of the winter collected abundant materials for the posthumous vol. of Burns, and M'Creery and I should now set seriously about the printing. But before we begin I want to have a little confidential communication with you. In tracing the life of this singular Genius, it is most curious and interesting to observe the incidents which gave rise to the effusions of his muse. Every one of his poems, printed and unprinted, has a history attending it, which, while it illustrates the character of the Poet, illustrates also the manners and characters of the class of men to which he belonged. In giving his biography, therefore, it would be very desirable to have the liberty of introducing such of his poems as relate to the incidents recorded, in their proper places, as well as to introduce occasionally his letters to his friends, and his own private observations from his imperfect diaries. In this way his journey through the classical ground in the South of Scotland, as well as his tour through the Highlands, including his visits to the Dukes of Athol and Gordon, may be made out clearly and very amusing. But to do this properly it would be requisite to give a complete edition of all his poems new arranged, and the poems to be added to those in your copyright would exceed considerably in bulk those you possess. I have already explained to you that in giving his life I mean everywhere to take a wide range (where I find occasion) as to life and manners; and, without deviating from the subject, a great variety of observations may be admitted. In estimating his genius references must be often made to his published poems, and I need not mention to you that it will be an awkward circumstance if these should neither be quoted where mentioned nor referred to in the volume. Again, his correspondence often refers to his poems printed and unprinted, and often contains, in the body of his letters, copies of particular poems. If these are not printed in the letters, they should be where they can be referred to—that is, in the volume.

I need not enlarge—you will easily see that to make a respectable publication the works of Burns complete should be given. It seems that some friends of the family in the north, adverting to these circumstances, have advised them to print only a sufficient number of copies at present to meet the subscription, and afterwards to publish a new and complete edition of the poems, etc., on the expiration of your copyright; and on this point a letter has been written to me by the law-solicitor appointed by the Court of Session for the family. I have, for my own part, a great objection to an abortive publication on which I shall waste much precious time and trouble, and have written to them to advise that, if possible, some immediate arrangement may be made with you, by which the whole may be printed now, or with as much speed as convenience will admit; and I have offered, if such should be their wish, to consult with you on the subject. To this letter I have received no answer, but I think it very unlikely they will reject anything that Roscoe and myself decidedly recommend. In the meantime, perfectly confident in your characters, I will enter a little on the views which strike me.

In revolving the matter, Roscoe and myself wish much that any plan could be proposed by which you might at once become the purchasers of the posthumous works, and the interest of the family be properly secured. If this were the case, all trouble about subscriptions, etc., etc., might be given up, for it is not for a moment to be apprehended that, the whole being one property, any possible hazard could arise from the publication being thrown on the public supported by its own buoyancy only. Nevertheless, means might be taken, with perfect propriety, to gain any advantage that might arise from the attachment of individuals to the Poet's family.

The difficulty in the way is for you to know what sort of terms you should offer—that is, what the MSS. may be worth. I have formerly given my opinion on this point, and since then it is rather raised, especially if the whole be printed together, for the works combined will be worth a vast deal more than the aggregate of their separate value. But it will be impossible for you to judge accurately without a personal inspection, or the inspection of some person or persons on whose judgment you can rely. And the best of all methods would be that of either of yourselves inspecting them here, should business enable you to call here for a day or two on your way to Scotland. In that case we could have time to examine everything together, and you might see the progress I have made in the biography, and judge of my talent. We could also settle all future proceedings.

To send the MSS. to London in their present state would be impossible. If you listen to the scheme of becoming immediate purchasers, I would advise a publication of two volumes 4to. or four 8vo. If the last, one volume might contain the biography, one the correspondence, and two the poems complete. In this case each volume might be printed separately, as ready—price, 7s or 7s 6d. These are Mr. Roscoe's sentiments as well as mine. In stipulating for a price, the principal sum might remain in your hands, at least for a time, the interest being paid to Mrs. Burns.

Excuse haste, and do me the favour of considering these suggestions and communicating your sentiments.—I am, etc., J. A. CURRIE.

CADELL & DAVIES TO DR. CURRIE.

31st May, 1798.

Dear Sir,—We should not have so long delayed answering your favour of the 14th inst., but that we had not an opportunity of mentioning the business to Mr. Cadell, sen., in whom and Mr. Creech the property of the already published poems of Burns still remains vested. Mr. Cadell now authorises us to say that he shall be very ready to meet your wishes as to the insertion of those poems in the proposed edition, not doubting that such an agreement may be agreed upon as will be perfectly satisfactory to Mr. Creech and himself. It, however, unfortunately happens that a new edition of these poems is just now completed,* pretty nearly in the same form as the last, and we are fearful we cannot hope that this edition will be all sold before the *complete* one is published, or at least announced, in either of which cases the remaining copies will instantly become of little or no value. Mr. Cadell and Mr. Creech will, therefore, naturally expect that one particular of the arrangement should be the purchase of such remaining copies at an equitable price.

We strongly recommend the work being published in four Svo. volumes, rather than two quartos; and that the whole be published together, in preference to a volume at a time. It strikes us, too, that the most eligible mode of treating for the copyright of the new works will be that the family be supplied with a certain number of copies in boards, ready for delivery to the subscribers, *free of all expense*, except the few unavoidable ones of carriage, etc. By this means it can be pretty nearly ascertained what advantage the family will derive from the publication, and all the risk will rest with the bookseller. It might also be stipulated, in order to give the family every chance of advantage, that in case the supply of the subscribers should require a greater number of copies than were agreed to be delivered gratis, then whatever further number was required should be furnished at a certain price. But all this, dear Sir, is merely a suggestion for your and Mr. Roscoe's consideration. Should any other mode have occurred to your minds, you will much oblige us by a communication of it, and be assured that no improper advantages shall be taken of the confidence you do us the favour to place in us. We will most readily take upon ourselves the arrangement of the business with Mr. Cadell and Mr. Creech, provided all other matters are settled; and, with regard to the Work itself, we shall certainly not think it necessary to receive any other opinion of it than that of the two friends with whom we have now the pleasure of conferring respecting it.

* Another two-volume issue of the Edinburgh edition was published in 1798.

Expenses of 2000 sets,	£900	0	0
500 to Author's family.			
1500 sold at 20s	£1500	0	0
Deduct	900	0	0
Profit	£600	0	0

But then the purchasers of the new works must pay Messrs. Cadell and Creech one-fourth of the 500 copies given to the family at 20s, so that from their three-fourths of the profits £450 must be deducted.

One-fourth of 500 copies at 20s,	...	...	£125	0	0		
Boarding the 500, say	...	...	35	0	0		
				£160	0	0	
Remaining profit	...	...	...	...	£290	0	0
120 sheets printing, No. 1000, at 30s,	...	...	...	...	£180	0	0
200 reams, at 25s,	...	...	...	...	300	0	0
Advertisements, etc.,	...	...	...	...	20	0	0
					£500	0	0
1000 sold at 20s,	...	...	...	...	1000	0	0
Profit	...	...	...	...	£500	0	0

DR. CURRIE TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Liverpool, 1st June, 1798.

Gentlemen,—Some little time ago I mentioned to you the advice I had given to the family and trustees of Mr. Burns, to make a transaction with you for the MSS., with the view of your bringing out a complete edition of his works. I have now a letter from the trustees acceding to my proposals, and giving me, in conjunction with Mr. Roscoe, full powers to treat with you. On this subject, therefore, I will hope for your sentiments.

On a former occasion I gave you my opinion respecting the best mode of disposing of the MSS., and of the form in which it struck me that a complete edition of the works would appear to most advantage. I have only to add that everything of that kind, if you acquired a property in the whole, would be decided finally by yourselves.

I think a property in the whole works, perpetuated for fourteen years longer (which would be the effect of your purchasing the MSS.), would be of very considerable value, if the publication were conducted in the manner I have proposed, or in any similar manner that your spirit of judgment might suggest. And this opinion I would willingly support by risking some property in it, if it were compatible with my situation to engage in such things.

I must conclude by observing that if you would wish to have the works printed in London, under your own eye (supposing you to make the purchase mentioned), and under an Editor of your own choice, I will most

readily give up the whole to your direction. I engaged in it to serve the poor widow and children; and, oppressing as the business is, I will not abandon it till their interests are secured. But it occurs to me that you may judge it best to print either in London or Edinburgh, and under the care of some gentleman of your own choice in either of these places, and if this be the case I shall have particular pleasure in resigning my charge.

On the other hand, if you prefer carrying on the work here, allowing me time, and M'Creery's assistance, I will conform to any directions that you may suggest, and give my best talents to the business. But if this last should be your determination, we must have pretty full communications.

I have only to hint that, in making any agreement with Mrs. Burns, the sum to be paid will not, I should think, be wanted in advance at present, the interest being regularly paid for the support of the family. Excuse great haste.—I am, etc.,

J. A. CURRIE.

CADELL & DAVIES TO DR. CURRIE.

Dear Sir,—Be pleased to accept our best thanks for the very friendly and unreserved manner in which you confer with us respecting Burns.

Our principal motive for proposing a payment for the copyright in books rather than in money was, what experience has often proved to us, that the subscribers, whilst they found that the author's family was to derive the advantage of the subscriptions, would hold themselves bound to take their copies and pay their money, but the instant they found that the property was the bookseller's, they would, a great many of them most certainly, think no more about the matter; so that, had the trustees adopted the plan you proposed to them, and the price of the subscription been raised to 30s., which the subscribers could not object to when they found they were to have the works *complete*, the family would have been much more benefited than by any other plan to which a bookseller could accede. And surely the account might be wholly terminated in twelve or eighteen months from the publication. However, we are very ready, dear Sir, to treat with the trustees, through your mediation, upon any other plan that may be thought fair and equitable; and, in order to simplify the transaction, we will take wholly upon ourselves the satisfaction of Messrs. Cadell and Creech, not only for the copyright of the printed poems, but also for whatever copies of the edition just printed may remain unsold when the complete edition is published. We continue to think that terms somewhat similar to those we have already proposed would be most advantageous to all parties. Suppose, for instance, the trustees were to fix upon any certain number of subscription copies about which there would be little or no risk, or trouble, or delay of payment to create long accounts, for us to supply copies in boards for that number, free of expense; and, further, to pay such sums of money as might be agreed upon. Or if some such plan as this should not be acceptable to the trustees, we will meet them upon the idea of a specific sum. We are only fearful that unless the subscribers are in a great measure supplied by the family, the subscription must be

considered as at an end, for we think that the subscribers would allow the trustees to advance the price and still take their copies, but not so with a bookseller.

As you express a wish for a personal interview on this business, and as yourself and Mr. Roscoe have both given up the intention of visiting London soon, one of us will contrive to pay you our respects at Liverpool for a day or two, if it will at all lessen the trouble of the business in which you have so benevolently engaged. . . . Be pleased to present our kindest respects to Mr. Roscoe, and tell him we will have the pleasure of writing to him very soon.

July 13th, 1798.

DR. CURRIE TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Dear Sirs,—I am sensible of the truth of your observations that if the subscribers conceive the family have transferred their interest in the subscriptions, some of them may make a pretence for withdrawing, and on this account I shall wish them to receive *a part* of their gratuity in copies for a certain number of subscribers, as you propose. But you will easily perceive that in the present state of the business, a personal interview will save a great deal of trouble, and, I have little doubt, bring everything to a happy conclusion. It gives me, therefore, particular pleasure that one of you can make it convenient to make us a visit here.

I have explained to you, without reserve, the nature of the charge I take of this publication, and I am fully convinced, from your general characters as well as from your present conduct, that on an occasion where the object is to rescue the infant family of a great genius from that poverty by which he was oppressed through life, and by the influence of which on his sensibilities he was brought to an untimely grave, you will relax somewhat from the rule of your ordinary transactions, and give us every advantage as well as facility that prudence will admit.

But I neither wish nor expect, nor do I think that the occasion will require, anything more; and this is a point on the extent of which I am anxious you should form a judgment for yourselves. In a day or two you can examine the MSS., and we can consult and arrange together the plan of the publication, should we agree on terms for the family. It will be my pleasure to explain my notions on the subject, and I will esteem it my duty to conform to any suggestions of yours as far as lies in my power. In a word, we shall probably have to settle the type, the paper, etc., etc., all of which may be done with ease in a short time, if other points are agreed on. I will, therefore, hope to see Mr. Cadell or Mr. Davies as soon as convenient, and in the meantime I will prepare everything for a definitive arrangement by writing to the trustees. I know not whether either of you are of Scotland, or acquainted with the Scottish dialect—the point is not material, for there is less of this in the posthumous than in the printed poems. But yet it will assist somewhat in forming a judgment of what is to come forward, should the manners and dialect of the northern part of the island be known to you.

As I said before, it is not, however, important, for in spite of the occasional obscurities of his dialect, Burns has written to the heart of every man of taste and genius.

I have communicated your message to my friend Roscoe, who shares with me in the pleasure of the visit you have intimated.

In haste, I am, etc.,

J. A. CURRIE.

Liverpool, 15th July, 1798.

P.S.—Please to send us notice when you may be expected.

The draft of a legal agreement between the trustees of Burns and Messrs. Cadell & Davies appears to have been submitted by Mr. Roscoe during the visit of Mr. Davies to Liverpool, referred to *supra*. As will afterwards appear, this agreement was formally concluded on 25th February, 1800. Neither draft nor formal contract appears in the Earnock collection. The precise terms may be gathered from the correspondence.

MRS. RIDDELL TO CADELL & DAVIES.

18 Duke Street, Saturday, 13th.

Mrs. Riddell's compliments to Mr. Cadell. She has just learned, by a letter from Dr. Currie, of Liverpool, that he and Mr. Davies have taken the charge of publishing the prospectus and receiving subscriptions for the late Robert Burns's posthumous volume. Mrs. Riddell has procured a good many subscribers, and wishes for some more of the printed proposals to dispose of. If Mr. Cadell can make it convenient, Mrs. Riddell will be very happy to see him and get some of the proposals, and talk the arrangements over with him, any morning he will choose to call upon her. She is always at home till two o'clock.

MRS. RIDDELL TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Monday Evening.

Mrs. Riddell's compliments to Mr. Davies. Business has called her up to town for a day only, and, in consequence of a letter from Dr. Currie, she wishes to have ten minutes' conversation with Mr. Davies, if he will be disengaged during any part of to-morrow morn. If he can, without inconvenience, favour her with a call, any time between ten and half-past three, she will be extremely obliged to him, as her being at present without a carriage renders her calling at his house less convenient, or she would have

proposed that in preference; and if any business detains Mr. Davies at home, if he will only name an hour, Mrs. R. will manage to call in the Strand herself. . . .

62 Jermyn Street.

J. CURRIE TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Liverpool, 27th January, 1799.

Dear Sir,—I duly received yours of the 15th January, and observe the balance due me is £116 6s. 5d., for which I have drawn on you on date the 18th, at a month, according to your desire. I am perfectly satisfied with your statements.

Mr. M'Creery has nearly finished one volume, but his progress has not been quite so rapid as I wished. We will, however, do our best to press matters forward, so as to be ready by the time proposed for publication.

I think it may be desirable to take some measures as to the portrait. A Mr. Beugo, of Edinburgh, offered a present of the engraving, which was accepted. He is a friend of Mr. Thomson, whose engraving I have not seen.

If you wish it, I will write to Edinburgh on the subject of Mr. Beugo's engraving, unless you think you could arrange the matter by writing to Mr. Creech. On reflection, I think it may be best for me to write, and I will write in a few days accordingly. I have not seen Mr. Thomson's engraving. I presume it is Mr. G. Thomson you mean, who is publishing the Scottish music. . . . I am, etc.,

J. A. CURRIE.

WILL. THOMSON TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Dumfries, 1st March, 1799.

Gentlemen,—The trustees for the family of the late Robert Burns lately received from Liverpool a draught of the deed of agreement to be entered into by you and them. A copy thereof, with such amendments as occurred to us to be proper, I now inclose for your perusal, and I hope it will meet with your approbation, in which case it may be immediately extended on the proper stamp, and executed by you, and, upon its being sent down, the parties here will readily do the same. Should any alteration be wished, or explanation desired, be so good as to communicate the same to me, and I will consult with those interested with myself in this concern of the infant family of the author.—Meantime I am, etc.

WILL. THOMSON.

J. CURRIE TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Dear Sirs,—The edition of the works of Burns has now proceeded so far that it may be expected to be before the public in the month of January. We are considerably advanced in the first volume, the second, third, and fourth being completed, indexes and glossaries excepted; the title pages, therefore, became subjects for consideration.

I am much concerned to see that the plate sent to you from Edinburgh, and furnished gratis by Mr. Beugo, gives so imperfect a representation of the Bard. It is so bad that if it be possible I wish it to be superseded by a better. I desired Mrs. Riddell to call and see it, and her notions correspond entirely with mine. The larger plate, executed by somebody in London, is very well. I sincerely wish this of Beugo had been equal. But rather than take this, I really think we had better adhere to the plate used for the former publication, if it can be got, and could be a little retouched. I am little conversant in such things, but I will beg your attention to the subject, . . . I am, etc.

J. A. CURRIE.

CADELL & DAVIES TO DR. CURRIE.

17th October, 1799.

Dear Sir,—We are favoured with your letter, and are happy to find that the edition of Burns is so far advanced. It is unfortunate that the portrait which Mr. Beugo has engraved should be so imperfect a likeness, and we cannot but agree with you in opinion that a copy of the old plate would be far preferable. We will immediately attend to this. At your convenience you will be so good as to inform us in what manner the books we are to furnish for the benefit of the poor Bard's family are intended to be disposed of, as we should be very sorry if, in arranging the distribution of the edition with the other booksellers either in England or Scotland, we should do anything that would militate against the interests of Mrs. Burns and her children.—We are, etc.,

CADELL & DAVIES.

DR. CURRIE TO CADELL & DAVIES.

18th November, 1799.

Dear Sirs,—I received your obliging intimation as to the widow of poor Burns, on which subject I will consult the trustees, and write to you again. We are going to affix to each title-page some little vignettes, cut in wood, which will look handsome, and be of small expense. The last volume does not advance so fast as it ought to do, but is, however, drawing towards a conclusion. . . .—I am, etc.,

J. A. CURRIE.

WILL. THOMSON TO DR. CURRIE.

Dumfries, 16th December, 1799.

Dear Sir,—Mr. Syme had lately a letter from Mr. Reid, bookseller in Glasgow, mentioning that you had wrote him relative to the disposal of the copies of Burns's work in that quarter, which belong to the family, and proposing an advertisement in the Glasgow newspapers, intimating the speedy publication and delivery of the book. The trustees see the necessity of engaging a person at each of the principal towns whence the sub-

scriptions have come, and are glad to find you have taken the trouble of procuring one so well fitted (as they believe Mr. Reid is) for the large town of Glasgow. Mr. Cunningham, it is expected, will take the charge of Edinburgh district, and I have agreed to undertake that of Dumfries. Previous, however, to any proceedings, it seems absolutely necessary that the transaction with Messrs. Cadell & Davies, which you had the trouble of conducting, should be completed in the legal forms of executing the proper deed. Mr. Roscoe formerly made out a draft of such an agreement, which I took the liberty to adapt more fully to the circumstances by a few additions; and so far back as 1st March last I transmitted a fair copy to Messrs. Cadell & Davies, requesting that they would get it extended upon the proper stamp, and execute it upon their part, which would be done here on its being returned, or in case anything required explanation or amendment, that they would communicate their ideas thereupon.

It is probable that they may have wrote to you on the subject, but if not, it would be proper, the trustees think, that they should be immediately applied to, that everything may be completed, so as no possible blame can fall upon the trustees hereafter, and they therefore are anxious that you should suggest the matter to the gentlemen concerned.—I am, etc.

WILL. THOMSON.

P.S.—Mr. Syme put your letter to him into my hand yesterday, after the post had gone, but an impression of Burns's seal is now sent addressed to Mr. M'Creery, as you desire. Mr. Syme desires me to say that this is a busy time with him, but you will have a full letter from him before Christmas.

DR. CURRIE TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Liverpool, 21st December, 1799.

Dear Sirs,—I enclose to you by my friend, Dr. Robertson, two letters I have lately received respecting the affairs of Burns. The first, from Mr. William Thomson, of Dumfries, appointed by the Court of Session agent for the family under the trustees; the other from Mr. George Thomson, of Edinburgh, editor and proprietor of the collection of original Scottish airs, whose correspondence with the Bard forms a considerable part of your fourth volume. You will see that Mr. William Thomson thinks it necessary that the agreement between you and the family should be completed. I have replied that I would acquaint you with his wish. I have suggested to him that you will probably think it necessary to have a clause inserted giving you a full right, not only to whatever is printed in the present edition, but to whatever may be at any time printed of the MSS. of Burns, so as to enable you to check all piracies, not merely of published works, but of his MSS., which the improvident Poet scattered very widely. Though there is little of any value left out of our present edition, yet there are some things, especially of a personal and political nature, left out, which might at a future time be interesting, and which would at least enable you to give

your future editions such a degree of novelty as would give them a decided preference in the market. I wish you also to possess and to exercise unlimited power to check the scandalous piracies that are at present going on at Glasgow and Edinburgh of the Bard's MSS., etc., of which you will see some account in the letter of Mr. G. Thomson herewith enclosed, and to which I refer you.

The songs advertised by Urbani & Liston make a part of our fourth volume, and Johnson is a low and miserable scoundrel, who, after having received the songs of poor Burns, which are the vital principle of his five volumes, gratis, refused to contribute anything to the support of the family, and now attempts, or seems to attempt, to sell these very songs to another publication. He certainly deserves no mercy. I have looked out among the letters for that one of the Bard to which Mr. G. Thomson refers, and it is enclosed also. I leave the steps you may think it necessary to take to your superior judgment. I am truly sorry that a most infirm state of health, and many pressing avocations, will delay the publication a little longer. No exertion on my part shall be wanting to get it forward. . . .
—I am, etc., J. CURRIE.

CADELL & DAVIES TO DR. CURRIE.

Liverpool, 13th January, 1800.

Dear Sir,—We should have sooner replied to your favour of the 2nd, but that we were desirous of giving you the satisfaction of knowing that some of the copies had arrived here safe. We yesterday received Mr. M'Creery's first parcel, which our people are making into lots, and we believe consist of about 510 complete, besides a number of fourth volumes. We hope to receive the remainder of the 1000 in a day or two, so that we shall publish immediately. Be assured that we shall take particular care to have the postscript inserted in every copy before it goes out. We did not send the heads for the twenty fine copies as you desired, because those we had previously sent to Mr. M'Creery were the earliest impressions, and he will not have occasion for the whole of them. We beg that you will dispose of the fine copies in any way you please, our principle wish regarding them being that you and Mr. Roscoe should each have one, and these we hope Mr. M'Creery took care to have properly bound as we desired. If there should be one which you can, with perfect convenience and conformable with your arrangements, spare, we should be glad of it for ourselves. At your earliest convenience you will favour us with a list of the subscribers in their neighbourhood to whom you allot a certain portion of the 500. And as there is so much reason to believe that a second edition will soon be wanted, you will be pleased to prepare a copy from which we shall print, and send it us up, as we mean to put it into two or three houses, in order that the book may be as short a time as possible out of the market. It would have given us much pleasure to have employed Mr. M'Creery upon whatever editions we had occasion for, as we have every reason to be satisfied.

C. & D.

CADELL & DAVIES TO DR. CURRIE.

Dear Sir,—Though we trust you will think such an assurance on our part unnecessary, yet, as the friends of the late Mr. Robert Burns, with a laudable respect and due regard to his memory, have expressed their wishes to that effect, we beg to assure you that notwithstanding the whole of his writings are assigned to us by the indenture of the 25th February, 1800, we will not in any future edition add any of his works to those already selected by you for publication, except such as we think will do credit to his character, and which you, or such other friends of the family as may be appointed by them to decide in that behalf may approve. At the same time it is, we presume, fully understood that any of the works that may be at present withheld, are not to be suffered to come before the public through any other channel, but are as effectively our property as those included in the edition now printing, although it may not at present be thought proper to publish them with his other works.—We are, etc.,

CADELL & DAVIES.

DR. CURRIE TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Liverpool, 3rd May, 1800.

Dear Sirs,—Along with this you will receive a copy of the “Works of Burns,” and it will give me particular pleasure to know that they answer your expectations. It is easy to see how the volumes might have been improved in a variety of respects; but such as they are, I trust they will be received favourably by the public, and that in another edition opportunity may be given to supply defects. The title pages are altered according to your suggestion. In the first volume the subscribers’ names, and the contents, are printed in a type that I do not much approve, but the want of paper obliged Mr. M’Creery to give them in this form, and likewise prevented me from adding an index, which, though not very material, would have been proper enough, and have added a little to the size of the volume, which you will perhaps think would have been desirable. As it stands, however, it comprises 406 pages. I have dedicated the work to a very particular friend—Captain Graham Moore, son of the doctor. He is in the West Indies, and I could not consult him upon it, but his father I might, if I had thought of it sooner. In this package I have, however, sent him a proof of the dedication, and I wish you to be so kind as to convey it to him without delay. I am not acquainted with his present address.

Respecting the manner in which I have executed the life, I say nothing. You will judge for yourselves, and if you can, in conscience, say anything agreeable to me upon it, I am sure you will say it. At the same time, I will be happy to hear any objections that may occur to you, or to any friend into whose hands you may put the volume. Certainly, since Johnson published the life of Savage, no similar article or biography has been given to the world. The incidents are, of course, few, the reflections many. I am desirous of hearing that my moralisings do not appear tedious, and that the interest of the reader in the subject of my sad story does not languish or die away.

In regard to the second volume—the correspondence of Burns—the circumstance mentioned in the prefatory remarks of the letters not being all before me when we began to print, has led me into one or two redundancies. Being afraid that of the writings of the Bard himself we should not have sufficient for a volume, I admitted a few articles of his correspondents, which, had I known the additional MSS. of his own I was to receive, had better have been omitted. In another edition this may be corrected. In regard to the price of the works, I think they cannot well be more than 31s. 6d. At least we cannot take more for the copies of the widow, for as we have received some subscriptions by advance, we were obliged to fix a price, and have fixed on this. Besides, it appears to me that when you see the volumes you will think this enough. Should the publication succeed, this need not prevent some advance on a new edition. You will now have all the information necessary for an advertisement. The subscribers in London may be directed to apply for their copies to you, as you are so good as to take charge of all that we shall distribute in your quarter, or you may direct this in any other way you judge best.

Nothing further occurs to me at present.—I am, etc.,

J. A. CURRIE.

J. CURRIE TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Liverpool, 14th May, 1800.

Dear Sirs,—Will you have the goodness to send us by the coach 500 impressions of the head of Burns for the copies of “The Widow.” The demand for copies is now very considerable, but we steadily withhold them. A friend of mine wishes to send ten copies to New York, but him I wish to oblige, as it will not interfere with the Liverpool sale. I begin to think our impression has been too small.

I will hope to hear from you at your leisure.—I am, etc.,

J. A. CURRIE.

CADELL & DAVIES TO DR. CURRIE.

Dear Sir,—The instant we were favoured with your last letter, we sent off 1000 impressions of the head of Burns to Mr. M’Creery, with instructions for the disposal of that number of copies of the work, but subject to whatever directions you might give him. We, therefore, take it for granted that he has consulted you thereon.

We have permitted two or three friends to look over the set of the works, which you were so obliging as send us, and they agree with us in thinking it one of the most pleasing and interesting publications that has appeared for many years. That the edition will soon be disposed of there cannot be the smallest doubt, and that it will, in all respects, reflect the highest credit on its truly benevolent editor is equally certain. With regard to the price, we have thought it best, notwithstanding the very

considerable expenses of the edition, to fix it at 31s. 6d. in boards, contenting ourselves with looking forward to future editions for our portion of the advantages.

We desired Mr. M'Creery to prepare a copy of the works in such style of binding as we thought would be most acceptable, and to present it to you in our name. We hope you will do us the favour to accept this copy, and as many more as you wish to give to friends. We also desired a copy handsomely bound might be presented to Mr. Roscoe, which, we trust, has been done. We shall be happy to hear from you when convenient, and, in the meantime, we are, etc.,

CADELL & DAVIES.

DR. CURRIE TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Liverpool, 2nd June, 1800.

Dear Sirs,—A thousand copies of the works of Burns are now on the road to you, and will be with you, I presume, in seven or eight days. By a letter from Edinburgh, I find there has been an omission that hurts the feelings of an excellent man, the correspondent of Burns, Mr. Cunningham, nephew to your late celebrated friend, Dr. Robertson; and that in printing the letter of Professor Stewart, one or two verbal inaccuracies have occurred. I have determined to correct these by printing a slip of paper, to be pasted on the last leaf of the first volume, which M'Creery is now printing, and which shall be sent up to meet the volumes now on their way to you, and which I hope you will not think it too much trouble to have pasted in the first volume of each set.

You have had the goodness to mention your wish that I should dispose of as many copies as I might desire to my particular friends. I have no wish to dispose of any, except to a few who are connected with the undertaking, and to a few of my own relations. The poor family of the Bard I wished to send five or six to; to Mr. Syme, Mr. Thomson, etc., each one. In the expectation of this, I ordered twenty to be struck off on a finer paper, in addition to the 2000 of which the edition consists. Mr. Davies will recollect that this was settled between us (except as to the circumstance of a finer paper) while he was here.

It occurs to me that the presents I mention, and which I shall point out to you more particularly, had better be presented in your names, in which case I shall reserve for myself of the stipulated number ten copies only, and (of these last) hold the other ten for you—four to be sent in your names to the brothers and sisters of Burns, one to Syme, one to Thomson, one to Mr. Murdoch in London, one to Mr. Roscoe, and the other two as you may direct. For these twenty copies we want twenty impressions of the head, which please to despatch by the coach.

I am truly sorry for all your expense and trouble, but will do my best to prevent your suffering any injury in the end.—Yours faithfully, in great haste,

J. CURRIE.

DR. CURRIE TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Liverpool, 12th June, 1800.

Dear Sirs,—Having a private opportunity, I enclose you some orders for the “Works of Burns,” which you will execute according to your discretion, and at the same time trouble you, I hope for nearly the last time, on the subject of the present edition.

I formerly mentioned to you my wish that you would have the goodness to undertake the distribution of 100 copies of the widow’s to subscribers in London, which you very kindly agreed to. Finding, however, that we could dispose of more than 100 copies here, I made an arrangement as follows, by which I meant you to have been released from that trouble :—

100	copies to	Dumfries.
50	„	Ayr.
100	„	Glasgow.
100	„	Edinburgh.
150	„	Liverpool, etc., etc.
<hr/>		
500		

By direction of Mr. Syme, the acting trustee in Dumfries, the copies or Edinburgh were addressed to Mr. Alexander Cunningham, No. 3 South Bridge. A hundred copies were supplied to him two days ago in a vessel still lying in our river. Of this I gave notice to Mr. Cunningham.

By the post of yesterday I have Mr. Cunningham’s reply. He says that all the subscribers’ names at Edinburgh have been taken in by the booksellers, who, of course, supply the persons on their respective lists. That each of them have ordered (from you, I presume) copies to the full amount of their subscriptions, and that of course he cannot dispose of the copies of the widow.

The copies ordered from you by the Edinburgh booksellers are, I presume, those shipped by Mr. M’Creery in sheets, and they are, in fact, on board the same vessel with the copies of the widow addressed to Mr. Cunningham.

In these circumstances, I would have relanded the package containing the last-mentioned copies, but they were found to be at the bottom of the hold, and could not be got out without the greatest inconvenience; and on reflection it struck me that it might be as well that they should go to Edinburgh, for if the booksellers there have ordered no more copies than their subscribers’ names—no more, in fact, than are going from Mr. M’Creery—I cannot doubt that the demand will exceed the supply, and a part of the deposit, which you meant to have remained with Mr. M’Creery here, may probably be better made with Mr. Creech. The package directed for Mr. Cunningham (which is insured) may therefore be delivered to Mr. Creech, and the supply of the Edinburgh market left wholly to the booksellers. In this case, you will not have to increase your insurance (i.e.; you do insure the books on their passage, which is done for 1 per cent.), but the premium we have paid (3s. 6d.) will fall to be charged to you. Under these circumstances, I must recur to your obliging offer, and request of you to deliver 100 copies in boards in London, to subscribers, for the

widow, selecting such subscribers as your judgment may approve. In this respect you will judge better than I can; but, as you desire it, I have herewith enclosed a printed sheet of the subscription list, with such names marked off as occurred to me. This business will, I know, oblige you to incur some trouble and expense, and therefore I propose that you should pay 30s. a copy to the family, as you receive payment, deducting 1s. 6d. from each. In my last letter I made a request for twenty of the heads to be sent by the coach, for twenty copies, of which I gave you some account. I find Mr. M'Creery has mentioned to you the price of the paper of these copies, contrary to my intention and wish, because it never was my notion that you should pay for the *extra price* of the paper, but simply that I should receive from you the copies at the same rate as if they had been on common paper. I conceived this had been understood between us, but you have, I know, been at great expense, and, if you have any difficulty on this point, I will not say a word further upon it, but settle the business with M'Creery. Still, however, I shall want the heads to make up the copies.

If you approve of what I have mentioned on the preceding page, in your next advertisement respecting the publication, it would, I think, be proper to say that "subscribers may have their copies on application to you," and thus those to whom you do not choose to send out copies will know where to apply, and not wait to have them delivered at their houses. Thus the business will be simplified.

It has occurred to me that several copies might be sold in Dublin and Cork, and if that market is attempted it should be attempted early, because if the works get into demand they may be printed there. There might be a considerable sale also in Philadelphia and New York and Quebec. And the same argument will apply for sending them soon to these places, if it be thought of any consequence to send them at all.

It is also evident that the "works" would sell in the East and West Indies—in short, wherever there are Scotchmen—and, as Dr. Johnson would say, "Where there are not Scotchmen, there is nothing."

I was much pleased with the opinion you had formed of the publication.
 . . . You will have heard that the "Works of Burns" are advertised here and published here. They go off well.

I mean to write to the Duchess of Gordon, Mrs. Walker, and one or two others of our fashionable persons when I hear the works are out. I wish, therefore, the copies of these two ladies to be sent to them soon. I shall mention that I have desired it, and request them to make what contribution they may please to the widow through you. Probably this may not produce anything, but it can do no harm, and it will remind them that they are to pay their copies. Will you have the goodness also to send, as soon as convenient, the Marquis of London's copy to him (by the coach at Bath).
 —I am, etc., J. A. CURRIE.

P.S.—That I may finish all my commissions at once, I beg to add that Dr. Valpy, of Reading, has paid me for two copies. Will you have the goodness to send them, addressed to him to the office of the *Star* evening

paper, and charge them to me. They may be considered as two of Mrs. Burns's, and you will thus have only 98 besides to deliver.

If my arrangement respecting the 100 copies sent to Mr. Cunningham meets your approbation, you will have the goodness to give directions to Mr. Creech to receive them.

I enclose to you various orders for copies—one from Inverness, from Messrs. Gauny & Juray, for 50 copies, which, if sent from Edinburgh, will take off half of the surplus number going to Mr. Creech. Inverness will be more easily supplied from your side of the island than from ours. There is an order from Birmingham, and another from Newcastle.—Adieu.

J. C.

CADELL & DAVIES TO DR. CURRIE.

14th June, 1800.

Dear Sir,—We are just favoured with your packet by Mr. Dale, and though we had yesterday the pleasure of writing to you, think it best to trouble you with another letter on the subject of the subscriptions at Edinburgh, respecting which we imagine there is some misconception on the part of Mr. Cunningham (as the copies sent by Mr. M'Creery in sheets to the several booksellers are for sale, independent of the subscription), who, we hope, will yet undertake the supply of the subscribers as far as he conveniently can, in order the more effectually to serve the family—as surely there cannot be a doubt that a number of persons at Edinburgh will send their 31s. 6d. to him, and in that case the amount of those copies will go into the pocket of the family, free from deduction. In all events he can, in a few weeks hence, deliver whatever copies may remain with him undisposed of into the hands of one of our correspondents (Manners and Miller, or Hill, we should prefer—the latter, we perceive, was an intimate friend of the Bard's). We are satisfied that you will not attribute our urging this to any wish to diminish our own trouble. We are led to it by the difficulty there ever is in London of obtaining the money for books subscribed for. In so great a degree have we ever found this to be the case, that, in due attention to the family's interests, we cannot venture to send copies except to those persons whom we very well know, or whom we have reason to believe are sufficiently known to you and the other friends of the family—for the rest, we must trust to the notice in the advertisement, which shall be inserted very extensively in the London papers, as well as those of Edinburgh and Glasgow. At Liverpool, we take it for granted, the work has already been advertised. We purpose requesting Mr. Lawrie's assistance, ascertaining to whom we can safely send copies, and doing our best in all other respects towards collecting monies from the subscribers marked in your list—so that, between Mr. Cunningham's exertions and ours the family may be secured in the clear receipt of 100 subscriptions. If you see no objection to this plan, I think Mr. Cunningham will have none; you will, of course, write to him of this effect, and the destination of the 100 copies will remain unaltered. The Duchess of Gordon's, Lord Landsdowne's, Mrs. Walker's, and Dr. Valpy's copies shall be sent

immediately. Mrs. Riddell's went yesterday (we made a point of forwarding hers the moment we were able). We earnestly request that you will not say another word about the extra price of the fine paper for the twenty copies. It gave us great pleasure to find that they had been taken off in paper of the description, and it would surely be very hard that any part of the expense should fall upon you. We shall not fail to attend to the valuable hints you have given us for the distribution of copies for sale. . . . Be so kind as favour us with your opinion of what we have here suggested.—In very great haste, believe us, etc.,

CADELL & DAVIES.

CADELL & DAVIES TO DR. CURRIE.

Dear Sir,—We are happy in being favoured with your letter, as it reaches us on the eve of our leaving London for two or three weeks.

The edition of Burns may be considered as gone. The few copies that remain are not equal to a month's demand, so that the instant you can conveniently favour us with the means, we will set two or three of our printers to work, and have the book in the market again with all possible dispatch. . . . We are,

CADELL & DAVIES.

CADELL & DAVIES TO DR. CURRIE.

Dear Sir,—The corrections you sent us for Burns were all in very good time, except that relative to the letter to Lord Buchan. The sheet which contains p. 64 of the 2nd volume, had been printed off before they arrived. All the others, as well as those made in the volumes, shall be carefully attended to. We have given a most particular charge to the printers, and are full of hope that the edition will be done correctly and properly. The first volume must be kept back till the others are printed, on account of the references, so that any further alterations you may wish to introduce will not come too late, a fortnight or a week hence. Will it be necessary to print the list of subscribers? . . . We are,

C. & D.

WILL. THOMSON TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Dumfries, 23rd September, 1800.

Gentlemen,—At a meeting of the trustees for the family of Mrs. Burns, held the other day, it was agreed that the funds should be collected and deposited with the Bank of Scotland's branch here by me as factor, therein to rest at such rate of interest as the bank gives until the whole be collected, and their further orders anent the most advantageous disposal given. Particularly, they instructed me to draw upon you for £250 due by the contract about this time*; before doing so, I conceive it proper to

* The agreement for the first edition seems to have been £250 in cash, and 500 copies for a like number of subscribers.

correspond, that it may be transacted in a way most suited for your convenience. Meanwhile I presume the demand for the publication has been such as to induce you to pay cheerfully pretty much about the time stipulated, and expect you will approve and give directions for my drawing on you accordingly. —I am, etc.,

WILL. THOMSON.

CADELL & DAVIES TO WILL. THOMSON.

3rd October, 1800.

Sir,—We were duly favoured with your letter of the 23rd ult. respecting the sum of £250 agreed to be paid by us for the copyright of Burns's Works, and in consequence thereof we here enclose you six bills upon correspondents in your side of the kingdom, amounting altogether to that sum, and which, we trust, will be truly honoured. We hope you will be pleased to excuse our resorting to this mode of payment; and it is our earnest request that whatever extra expense arises to the Trust from the negotiation of the bills, or loss of interest from the payment being somewhat delayed, may be candidly stated to us, and we will take care to add the amount thereof to the further sums which will become due upon the publication of the second edition. There is also an account of monies received by us for the family on one hand,* and of copies delivered by us over and above the stipulated 500 on the other hand, which shall be stated whenever the trustees wish it.—We are etc.,

C. & D.

DR. CURRIE TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Liverpool, 16th November, 1800.

Dear Sir,—I hope the enclosed, which I wish to form a third appendix to your first volume of Burns's Works, does not come too late. I think the letter of Gilbert Burns extremely valuable, and I am sure it will be received with great interest by the public. It will set off to advantage the new edition.

Poor Gilbert wishes me to intercede with you for a few copies of the edition. I have boldly promised that you will give him half-a-dozen. I wish, also, that you would make him a present of the *Lounger* and *Mirror*, and of the monthly magazine for the present year. He is a great man, and will yet be heard of in the world. He is, besides, an excellent fellow.

The addition of this letter will swell your first volume (lessened by the omission of the list of subscribers) to a proper size, and justify your raising your price, if you are so disposed.

But I have not done. I must have, if you please, half-a-dozen copies for myself. Of these, please to send one to Dr. C. Wells, Salisbury Court, and one to his sister, Miss Helena Wells, the authoress. One also to Mr.

* This probably refers to the subscriptions presided over by Sir James Shaw and others.

Wakefield, in Dorchester Jail, who has lately sent me his work in a present ; and the other three please to send to me here. I will settle all accounts with you very soon. . . . —I am, etc., J. A. CURRIE.

CADELL & DAVIES TO DR. CURRIE.

Dear Sir,—We were yesterday favoured with your letter, enclosing one from Mr. Gilbert Burns, which will form a very interesting addition to our new edition. It comes in very good time for insertion, for, unfortunately in addition to the delay necessary, arising from the printer being at a stand with the first volume till the others were finished, on account of the references, we have been checked in our progress more than once by a want of paper. We are now, however, getting on very rapidly, and hope to have the whole completed very soon.

We beg you to accept our very best thanks for the very friendly freedom with which you mention the copies you wish to have of the new edition. To the number you mention you are heartily welcome, as is also Mr. Gilbert Burns to these articles you propose our presenting to him. . . . —We are, CADELL & DAVIES.

P.S.—We print a few copies of our new edition of Burns on large paper.

DR. CURRIE TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Liverpool, 27th December, 1800.

Dear Sirs,—I have received the sheets of the second edition of Burns, which I have not had time to examine. I wish the work had been in greater forwardness, as the demand—here, at least—has been very great. Had the second edition followed the first immediately, we would at least have sold an equal number of it. But the demand could not have been foreseen.

If in examining the sheets you have sent me any errors should appear, they shall be forwarded on the 2nd January, on which day I shall draw upon you for the expenses which I have incurred. The sum is greater than I mentioned, because I have been obliged to return many of the MSS. of Burns to the persons who lent them for publication. And as the former copies were destroyed in printing the first edition, we have been obliged to write out the whole of the letters, etc., anew, not as they are printed, but with all the gaps filled up, so as they may be employed for an edition at some future time, when the death of individuals and the changes of the political hemisphere may admit some happy effusions to be published, which are now suppressed.

I have expended fifty guineas ; I shall draw for forty only. The other ten may be passed to my credit in account with you.* When all the copying

* Messrs. Cadell & Davies were the publishers of Dr. Currie's own works.

is paid for there will be a sum equal to ten guineas more (in all sixty). But this will include all that is necessary for this and the next or third edition.

. . . I am, etc.,

J. A. CURRIE.

P.S.—You will have to settle with the trustees of Burns soon.

CADELL & DAVIES TO DR. CURRIE.

17th January, 1801.

Dear Sir,—As we have not had the pleasure of hearing from you, we have taken it for granted that you did not find any list of errata necessary, and have therefore published our new edition. Copies are already sent to Dr. Wells, to his sister, and to Mr. Wakefield, as you desired, and three copies (one of them on large paper) for yourself are this day sent to you by the coach. At your convenience, be so obliging as tell us where those for Mr. Gilbert Burns are to be sent. We hope you will approve the execution of this new edition, as we were anxious that it should be as little inferior as possible to the former, and this principally because we thought it likely that many of the subscribers and friends of the family might not have been supplied out of the first edition on account of its very rapid sale, but so enormously increased are the expenses of printing, as well as paper, lately become, that we despair of being able to afford to bring forward any future edition in so good a style. Respectable, however, it shall always be, if elegance cannot be achieved. . . .—We are, etc.,

CADELL & DAVIES.

DR. CURRIE TO CADELL & DAVIES.

24th January, 1801.

Dear Sirs,—I found no time to look over the sheets you had the precaution to send me with the attention required to detect typographical errors. I have detected one or two, but they are unimportant.

I thank you for your attention in sending the three copies as directed, and for the three copies you sent to myself by the coach, which reached me in safety.

I cannot say that I think the new edition equal to the first, but I really think that it is fully as good as could be afforded. Unquestionably, there has been no book published so cheap in the works of Burns for many years. The third must mount to 36s. or two guineas.

I observe that you have sent some copies of the new edition to Jones.* Do you know that this wrongheaded man will sell them? It is more than I know. But if he chuses to do so, certainly I have no objection. . . . I transmitted the note you inclosed to me to Mr. Roscoe. An artist has sent me two drawings, one of Alloway Kirk, another of the cottage in which Burns was born, both well executed. It might be worth your while to

* Jones was a bookseller in Liverpool, between whom and Dr. Currie there was some misunderstanding.

consider whether these might be engraved for a third edition. Would a *fac-simile* of his writing be of any use? I wish we knew how to employ the money due to the poor widow to the best advantage. I confess I do not admire the Funds, especially after reading the pamphlet of Mr. Boyd, a work of great talent, and of weighty results.

Young Robert, son of the Bard, is a boy of excellent talents, and quiet, modest disposition. He would like to be a printer, or something connected with literature. I take the liberty of hinting this should anything occur to you for the promotion of his wishes.—I am, etc.,

J. A. CURRIE.

P.S.—Be so good as to send the copies for Mr. Gilbert Burns to Edinburgh, to the care of Mr. Cunningham or Mr. Creech.

WILL. THOMSON TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Dumfries, 6th March, 1801.

Gentlemen,—I have used the freedom of forwarding to you fourteen—say twelve only—copies of the first edition of Burns's Works, which were sent here to supply that number of subscribers which had been procured by Patrick Heron of Heron, Esq., M.P., for which copies £1 1s. had been paid by each at the time of subscription. It will, therefore, be obliging if you will deliver out to the gentlemen in the inclosed list the copies on the payment of the remaining 10s. 6d. each.

The friends of the family of Burns are very anxious to have the whole produce of the publication collected and placed out in one sum for the support of the widow and children, and it will be obliging how soon you can remit the amount of the works disposed of for the family, the balance of the £250 (viz., the books which Mr. Boyd, bookseller here, pay me), and also the sum now payable on a second edition, being £200.*—Yours, etc.,

WILL. THOMSON.

Liverpool, 10th September, 1801.

Dear Sir,—Dr. Currie is too busy to say what he authorises me to say, that in the new edition of Burns he would rather wish you to insert the love letters with which the 1st edition opened, and the 2nd was without.†

If this new arrangement be now possible, you will be good enough to give the Doctor a line that he may write to you finally and decisively on this point. I have heard everyone extremely lament the absence of these letters. I have therefore troubled you with this note.—I am, etc.,

WM. SMYTH.

* A further cash payment of £200 seems to have been agreed upon for the second edition.

† These were the letters to Ellison Begbie.

CADELL & DAVIES TO DR. CURRIE.

12th September, 1801.

Dear Sir,—We are just favoured with a letter from Mr. Smyth, informing us that you are desirous of re-introducing in the 3rd edition of Burns some letters that had been inserted in the 1st edition, but omitted in the 2nd. How far this is now practicable you will be best able to judge when we acquaint you with the progress made by the printer. Of the 2nd volume he has done as far as page 176, and of the 3rd as far as page 112. Neither the 1st nor 4th volumes are yet begun upon. If it is not yet too late to insert them, we will take care that any instructions which you may favour us shall be properly attended to. . . . We are, etc.,

CADELL & DAVIES.

DR. CURRIE TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Liverpool, 24th September, 1801.

Dear Sir,—Your letter of the 12th is before me. The alteration proposed to you by Mr. Smyth, as desired by me, cannot now be made, unless the love letters which stood first in the 1st edition and were omitted in the 2nd should be inserted in an appendix to the 3rd. But this I leave to you. I scarcely think it necessary. The public are more desirous than I expected of every scrap of our singular Poet.

Did you send the copies of the second edition to Gilbert Burns?—to whom did you send them? Some weeks ago I understand he had not received them. Will you address a few lines to him by the post?—"Gilbert Burns, Moreham Mains, by Haddington,"—informing him where he may apply for them.

The reply of Mr. Cadell was quite satisfactory. . . . I am, etc.,

J. A. CURRIE.

CADELL & DAVIES TO DR. CURRIE.

Dear Sir,— On a reference to our books, I found that our little present to Gilbert Burns was sent in February last, enclosed in a parcel to Mr. Creech. Of this I informed him by letter immediately, and hope he will soon receive the parcel. It vexes me not a little that Mr. Creech suffered it to remain so long unforwarded.

We are told that in different towns in Scotland there are at this time no less than four or five small editions of Burns's Poems preparing for speedy publication. They surely cannot have the impudence to include all the poems, yet perhaps it might be proper for us to print a cheap, yet neat, edition of the poems, complete, with two or three engravings, to meet these literary marauders on their own ground. Will you favour us with your advice hereas, and, in the event of our doing it, with the arrangements you would have followed?—We are, etc.,

CADELL & DAVIES.

DR. CURRIE TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Liverpool, 19th November, 1801.

Dear Sir,— . . . I am happy that Gilbert Burns has got the copy of his brother's works. Gilbert is an extraordinary man, and will yet be heard of in the world.

In regard to the publication of the poems of Burns complete, in a cheap form, with two or three engravings, it meets my approbation entirely, provided you do not think it will interfere with the sale of the 3rd edition. As I will have no responsibility in regard to this cheap edition (which, of course, will not include the life), you may take into your own consideration the propriety of printing the poems which were printed separately by Stewart & Meikle in a form similar to our edition, price 2s. 6d. One or two of these have been often asked after, particularly "Holy Willy's Prayer."

In regard to the third edition now in hand, be so good as to get on with it in your own way, at your own convenience. There are many things in the first volume I wish to enlarge, but I shall not be able to execute more of my intention at present. If this third edition is not very numerous, a fourth will be wanted in a few years, and the means of improving that very much are in my mind, if I had time from incessant professional labours, in order to give birth to my conceptions. . . . My gallant friend, Captain Moore, has come home in very poor health. Two copies I sent him of the works of Burns to the West Indies have miscarried. I wish now to present him with as handsome a copy, as handsomely bound in green morocco, as can be procured. Do me the kindness to attend to this particularly, and make your charge to my account. . . .—I am, etc.,

J. A. CURRIE.

J. CURRIE TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Dear Sirs,—I am to blame in not having explained to you that I have no alterations to make in the Life of Burns subsequently to the end of the corrected copy which I sent you. The sheets you have received came down to me in their imperfect state from yourselves when the second edition of the Life was printing, and the printer must print the remaining part from some other copy. . . . I presume the character of Dr. Blair as drawn by Burns, and directed by insertion in this edition, is already printed off. Should it not, I would rather have it suppressed, as it may give some persons uneasiness. However, should it be printed, there is no great harm.—I am, etc.,

J. CURRIE.

DR. CURRIE TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Liverpool, 16th March, 1803.

Dear Sirs,—I am ashamed to have so long delayed in replying to your letter, but the subject of the fourth edition required some consideration, which the extreme pressure on my time, from the universal prevalence of the influenza, has prevented me from giving it.

My wish is at some future day to go again over the manuscripts of Burns in my hands, and to extract from them such parts hitherto unpublished as the circumstances of the times and the recent death of the Bard rendered it proper to withhold in the original publication, and which yet may deserve to see the light. I have at the present moment no time for this undertaking, and, besides, it is too early.

In two years hence, or even four or five, it may be done to more advantage, and we will then enlarge, perhaps, the life in some particular points. You shall then also, if you please, Gentlemen, improve your paper and your typography. But in the next edition I wish for no alterations, and only one addition, in the form of an advertisement from myself. This I wish to include two objects—the first, to give the public some account of the success of the attempt we have made to serve the family of Burns; the second, to express in suitable terms the indignation which I feel at the conduct of some of the booksellers in Scotland in the surreptitious publication of poems which we had rejected, and also in the publication of the letters to Clarinda, of which you, perhaps, have seen a copy.* But even for this I have not leisure at present. It may be appended to the last sheet of your first or last volume, and I wish to know how long time you can give me to get it ready. . . . —I am, etc.,

J. A. CURRIE.

DR. CURRIE TO CADELL & DAVIES.

12th February, 1804.

Gentlemen,—By the mail coach of this evening I return to you Mr. Chalmers's MS. life of Burns in a parcel, which also contains Mr. Roscoe's sentiments, and my own, on that work. I am sorry they are not more favourable.

I should be sorry to give offence, or to be involved in any unpleasant correspondence on the subject. Whether you show these letters to Mr. Chalmers or not, I leave to your own discretion, but I must request of you not to part with them, or to suffer them on any account to be circulated.

Nothing is so easy for you as to have an abridged life of Burns which may give offence to no party. Such a one appeared, if I mistake not, in the *Edinburgh Magazine*. I doubt if Mr. Chalmers will consent to make the changes in his which are necessary to give it this character.

I am at present much indisposed, and dictating has fatigued me.—
I am, etc.,

J. A. CURRIE.

ALEX. CHALMERS TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Gentlemen,—Inclosed you have a proof of the sketch of the Life of Burns. As you seem to think it ought again to be submitted to Dr. Currie, I have sent it for that purpose. I have endeavoured to alter it in such a manner as to repel his insinuation that I seemed to intend to lessen

* This refers to the Glasgow publications of 1801, and to Stewart's "Clarinda" piracy of 1802.

Burns's merit as a man or a poet. Perhaps I felt the insinuation too strongly, but, on this subject, I shall say no more, as you appear to be sensible that I have been placed in a situation somewhat new to me, and certainly not of the most pleasing or delicate kind. I have only to request that you will communicate any further alterations that may be thought proper, to *me*, that I may make them on the duplicate proof in my possession, in my own hand, before I send it to the printer.—I am, etc.,

Monday noon, 7th May, 1804.

ALEX. CHALMERS.

ALEXANDER CHALMERS TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Gentlemen,—I hasten to return Dr. Currie's letter, as it appears to be about other business. I have not failed to avail myself of his remarks, and, in some degree, of his information respecting Burns's family. I shall return a corrected proof to Mr. ——— on Monday, previous to my going out of town,* to which, however, I mean to return on Saturday, 23rd, which I hope will be in time to look at the titles, indices, etc.—I am, etc.,

ALEXANDER CHALMERS.

Saturday Evening, 16th June, 1804.

THE CROMEK CORRESPONDENCE.†

MR. CROMEK TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Allerton, 12th February, 1808.

Dear Sirs,—I have now been upwards of a week at Liverpool, and I have received from my good friend, Mr. Roscoe, a reception the most flattering. I was detained in the north, especially in Edinburgh, much longer than I had expected. Yet my time has been far from lost. Manuscripts of a most interesting nature have been put into my hands with a confidence and generosity that reflects great credit on their contributors.

Mr. Roscoe is busily engaged in writing a supplement to his poetical pamphlet, which has occupied a good deal of his time. However, he has kindly contributed many an hour to the perusal of my papers, so anxiously is he interested in the reputation of Robert Burns. Mr. Shepherd of Gartaire has also allowed me to read everything to him. His remarks and advice are highly judicious and valuable.

* Cadell & Davies issued a three-volume edition in 1804, with Life by Alexander Chalmers.

† Several letters in last year's issue also deal with the "Reliques."

The whole mass of the papers that form the Liverpool collection has been laid before me. Notwithstanding the labour and exertions of Dr. Currie, yet it is almost incredible to think of the number of sterling first-rate productions of the Doctor still remaining buried in the pile. This is not so much to be wondered at if you consider that your four volumes (excellent as they are) were composed and compiled at those moments of leisure which the Doctor snatched from his professional pursuits.

Mr. Roscoe has no difficulty in asserting that your forthcoming volume will not only be more miscellaneous in its nature, but much more interesting in its materials than any one single volume (the volume of poetry excepted) yet published, and that it will have a speedy sale.

The dinner is just over, and he has this moment retired to his study to write some *Remarks on the Dignity and Independence of Genius*, to be attached to my preface.

I shall certainly be in town in a week. It will then remain with you to have the book before the public as soon as possible. Curiosity is greatly excited, and it is easy to see that it will be greatly gratified.

Mr. Roscoe, over a glass of wine, has drawn up the title of the book. You will see it on the other page. . . . I am, etc.,

J. H. CROMEK.

RELIQUES OF ROBERT BURNS,

CONSISTING CHIEFLY

OF

ORIGINAL LETTERS,

POEMS,

AND

CRITICAL OBSERVATIONS

ON SCOTTISH SONGS,

COLLECTED AND PUBLISHED

BY

R. H. CROMEK,

P.P.E.T.M., F.O.O.C., ETC., ETC.

The titles he has conferred on me are—Poet, Painter, Engraver, Traveller, Man, Father of One Child, etc., etc.

MR. AINSLIE TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Edinburgh, 10th June, 1808.

Gentlemen,—When I had the pleasure of seeing your Mr. Davies in London, I showed a letter which I had received from Mr. Gilbert Burns authorising me to supervise the manuscripts about to be published by Mr. Cromek, consisting of letters, poems, etc., by his brother, Robert Burns,

none of which should, according to the agreement respecting that literary property, be given the public without his approbation. When in London I accordingly went over with Mr. Cromek what he proposed publishing. Among the rest was a journal of a tour which the Poet took along with me, through the South of Scotland, and in which I introduced him to many respectable families. In that journal many private opinions of individuals are expressed, which I struck out in the revisal; but I have this moment learned from my friend, Mr. Ballantyne, who has returned from London, that Mr. Cromek means to publish the whole, which, if he does, I assure you he hurts the feelings of many worthy people. He will also naturally injure the work; and, as the friend of these persons, and who introduced the Poet to their kindness and hospitality, I must exceedingly disapprove of such an attempt. This is certainly very strange, injudicious, and highly improper on the part of Mr. Cromek, which is the reason of my now addressing you and not him. And I trust—and, indeed, I must insist—you will do the memory of the Poet, and the feelings both of my south country friends and myself justice, by expunging all such exceptional parts of the work, and keeping that journal as I wanted it.—I am, etc.,

ROBERT AINSLIE.

MR. CROMEK TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Bristol, 20th June, 1808.

Dear Sirs,—From the specimen of Mr. Ainslie's inquisitorial authority exercised over myself and my papers, when that gentleman (by the courtesy of the world so called) was last in London I was quite prepared to meet that imperious tone of voice which he has assumed in his address to you.*

I have not deceived Mr. Ainslie in regard to the Journal. He has deceived himself. With a caution by no means rare among his countrymen, and a vulgarity of taste peculiarly his own, he runs his pen through some of the most exquisite parts of this valuable Remain, *ordering, not requesting*, they might be omitted. I then remarked to him, that in so doing, he had not only destroyed the harmony of the whole, but he had rendered the Journal as dull and stupid as if *he* or *I* had written it; and I left it for him to determine whether our Journals would be fit objects of public attention and curiosity.

This Journal has been attentively read by Mr. Roscoe—by him approved. It was prepared for the press with an almost *incredible anxiety*. Nay, even many of Ainslie's observations were attended to, and, except in cases of persons praised, initials only are printed. Not one is satirized to gratify a splenetic humour, not one whipped who (Ainslie himself acknowledged) did not really merit that kind of discipline.

You must consider what it is that constitutes the value of this Journal, and you will find its leading feature to be *character* delineated with a masterly and *discriminating* pencil. You will perceive in it independence

* “Wasna Robin bauld?”—(BURNS).

of mind, elevation of sentiment, and, in one or two instances, sublimeness of devotion.

In the same number of pages there has not yet been presented to the public (if we except his own life in his letter to Dr. Moore) a more striking and animating display of the Poet's mind, whether we contemplate it in a dignified or a ludicrous point of view. His virtues, his weaknesses, pass in review before the reader; nay, the very inmost recesses of his heart are often exhibited; and in such a work, so original in its plan, and so interesting in its execution, to be *broken down* and reduced to *fragments* by the worse than Gothic barbarism of a *Scotch attorney*,* and to serve the basest of all purposes, too—the hope of bettering his interest with his paltry south country friends.

I have been greatly surprised to find that you think the Journal “has many, very many, passages likely to give extreme offence, and to discredit both editor and publishers.” I really cannot tell where they are to be found.† I dined yesterday with an eminent physician here, and a very clever, gentlemanly man, a particular friend of both Burns and his biographer, and who has the good of the work much at his heart. I read the Journal to him. He is decidedly against cutting it to pieces. However, I shall hasten to town, and *shall very carefully meet your wishes in everything*; only let us be careful that in “plucking out weeds we do not destroy the flowers also.”—I am, etc.,

R. H. CROMEK.

This need not occasion the least delay. M'Creery can go on as usual, as whatever may be cut out can be supplied by asterisks.

R. H. CROMEK TO CADELL & DAVIES.

Glasgow, 5th September, 1809.

Dear Sir,—I did not think proper to trouble you with a letter till the object we had in view, when we left London, was accomplished.

I am happy to state that, sanguine as my expectations were, our success has been far beyond them, and this, too, notwithstanding almost incessant rainy weather.

From Gilbert Burns, and, indeed, every part of the family, we experienced all the kindness we could wish. He desired me to inform you that he not only heartily approved of the plan of illustration, but was proud to have an occasion of showing his sense of the honourable conduct of your house with regard to the money transactions which had existed between you and the trustees of the Poet.

I am but just returned from the Highlands. As Mr. Stothard had completed his share of the undertaking, we parted on Friday last at Greenock, and he is on his way to England.

* “Fient haet he had but three
Goose feathers an' a whittle.”—(BURNS.)

† Cromek evidently experienced the Currie influence also.

I have not only picked up a good deal of information respecting Burns, but I have met with six unpublished letters of his of great importance to a new edition.

I think it will be of great consequence that I should call on Mr. Roscoe on my way home, and not only show him the portraits, but consult him fully on the execution of the work.

My sister will have the pleasure of calling on you. Will you do me the favour to let her have £20 on my account?—I am, etc.,

R. H. CROMEK.

Mr. Stothard has got excellent portraits of D. Ferriar and Mr. Roscoe, particularly the latter gentleman.



SOME ADDENDA TO THE THOMSON CORRESPONDENCE.

IN the month of November, 1895, a very interesting series of articles appeared in the *Glasgow Evening News* dealing with the general correspondence of George Thomson, which had been placed at the disposal of the editor by Mr. Thomson's descendants. Amongst the documents were several letters from the relatives of Burns which had never seen the light, and others which had been published only in part, and therefore worthy, in our opinion, to be placed on the permanent Burnsiana record. All rights being reserved, we communicated with Mr. Murray Smith, of the *Evening News*, who very courteously allowed us to extract whatever might be found suitable for our columns. The result we now lay before our readers. The letters explain themselves, and consequently require no comment. The most interesting, as we have already said, are those supplementary of the Earnock MSS. published in last year's *Chronicle*, and those dealing with the portraits of Burns. The letters of Mrs. Burns have a special interest of their own.—[ED.]

The letters which Burns wrote to Thomson had long ago been published, but the letters which were written to him by the Poet's relatives, by Beethoven, Haydn, and Weber, and later (when Thomson's project took a more ambitious form) by Scott, Byron, Moore, Hogg, Joanna Baillie, Boswell of Auchinleck, and others, never had been given to the world. They were carefully preserved by Thomson—docketed and classified by his own hand, and they have since his death been zealously treasured by his descendants. It is sufficient guarantee of the authenticity of the documents to say that the Thomson collection is now in the possession of a lady whose husband was the grandson of George Thomson. With a jealous regard for the contents of her precious box of missives, she refrained from publishing the fact of their existence; but the task of making an inventory and synopsis of them, recently undertaken with great zeal and sympathy by her and a cousin, brought with it the desirability of giving a reading of them to the world. The right of publication was acquired, as we have said, by the *Evening News*. We select the most interesting from the Burnsiana point of view.

The first parcel of letters given are from Gilbert Burns, the brother of the Poet, and from Jean Armour Burns, the Poet's wife. They show indirectly beyond all dispute how little the relatives of Burns sympathised with the cruel attacks made on Thomson after the Poet's death by those who charged him with using the brains of the Poet to his

own glory and gain, without practically any pay. Had Jean Armour and Gilbert Burns considered that Thomson was unjust in his treatment of the Poet, it is not at all likely that the following letters would have been written in the warm and friendly tone they display.

The first letter from Gilbert speaks for itself:—

Dinning, 14th March, 1800.

Sir,—I received your very acceptable present of your songs, which calls for my warmest thanks. If ever I come to Edinburgh I will certainly avail myself of your invitation to call upon a person whose handsome conduct to my brother's family has secured my esteem and confirmed to me the opinion that musical taste and talents have a close connection with the harmony of the moral feelings. I am unwilling, indeed, to believe that the motions of everyone's heart are dark as Erebus to whom Dame Nature has denied a good ear and musical capacity, as her ladyship has been pleased to endow myself but very scantily in these particulars, but "happy is the swain who possesses it, happy his lot, and happy the sharer of it." To the sharer of yours I beg you will present my most cordial congratulations. My sister-in-law begs me to present her best thanks to you for her copy, and to assure you that, however little she may have expressed it, she has a very proper sense of the kind attention you have so frequently shown her.

I remain, dear Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

GILBERT BURNS.

Grant's Braes, 25th June, 1816.

Dear Sir,— . . . I do not doubt that what Mr. Wordsworth proposes in regard to the publication of my brother's works might have a good effect, but it would require so much arrangement, and so much writing on my part, as I think I cannot go through with. When I come to town I will show you the outline of a plan I sent long ago to the book-sellers. . . . Among the papers left with Dr. Currie was a narrative of the circumstances of my brother's early life I had written at the request of Mrs. Dunlop. I do not recollect distinctly what it is like; perhaps it might be brushed up a little, and a short addition made to it of the leading circumstances of his life from the time of his first coming to Edinburgh till his death, to serve for the preliminary narrative Mr. W. proposes. I am quite decided that almost none of the letters to my brother in the volume of general correspondence ought to be republished. . . .—I remain, dear Sir, yours sincerely,

GILBERT BURNS.

When we come to the letters of Jean Armour, a very old and interesting dispute as to her capabilities is recalled. The general assumption is that she was illiterate. But here are three letters, to all appearance written in her own hand, and expressed, if not with high literary elegance, at all events with a taste and grammatical and orthographical correctness few fine ladies of to-day could improve upon. The handwriting is feminine,

neat, and confident; it is the same in the letter of October, 1816, as it is in a letter dated five years later, so making it less likely that she employed an amanuensis.* Her first letter is of the utmost importance as bearing upon the portraits of Burns:—

Dumfries, 2nd October, 1816.

My Dear Sir,—I had a letter last week from Mr. George Watson containing a request from a meeting of gentlemen that I would send my late husband's portrait as a model to Mr. Nasmyth to form a bust by. I am sorry I have not the power to comply with this request at present. The portrait is in London in the care of Mr. Turnerilla as a model for the sculpture to be placed in the Mausoleum here. I expect it to be returned to me in a short time, when I shall lend it according to the directions given. My brother Gilbert recommends me to send it to your care. This I very readily agree to, as I can place every confidence in your friendship, and will be more satisfied of its safety than when in the hands of strangers. I will hope, when I do send it, that you will return it to me as soon as possible.—With respectful compliments to your family, I am, dear Sir, yours obliged and sincerely,

JEAN BURNS.

In her next letter she refers to two sons stationed very wide apart in India, and there is a piquant suggestion of polite sarcasm in her remark that Mr. Thomson's informant must have been drawing the long bow:—

My Dear Sir,—I have to acknowledge your very kindly letter, 24th October. I thank you for your kind wishes regarding my health, which, I am happy to say, is much better. I hope soon to be quite re-established in it again. Your account of my sons is very highly gratifying to me. I have great satisfaction in every account I hear of them. I trust they will gain the esteem of their friends by their own good conduct; it is that alone that can ensure it. I can hardly imagine, however, that anyone could have an opportunity of seeing both my sons often, considering the immense distance by which they are separated from each other. . . . I am glad to hear that the portrait is in so good hands. I shall take the first safe opportunity I meet with to send for it at the time you mention. James has very often expressed a wish for a copy of his father's portrait. I thought of ordering one of the engravings you mention; but, on consideration, I think it would not be superior to the one in the first volume of your songs. Will you have the goodness to give me your opinion on what would be the best, and say what would be the expense of both a painting and engraving? I have another request to make. Will you send me by the safest conveyance—which, I suppose, is the mail—a copy of the songs, including the four volumes? From the great attention I have experienced at all times from Dr. Maxwell, both as a friend and in the way of his profession, I wish, as a mark of my gratitude, to present him with these songs for his daughters' use. Have the goodness when you send them to put in with them a note

* For a good many years before she died Mrs. Burns was paralysed in the right arm, and did employ an amanuensis.

of the expense, which I shall transmit to you by a friend who intends going to Edinburgh in a few weeks. . . . Believe me, ever yours with esteem,

JEAN BURNS.

Dumfries, 19th November, 1817.

The next letter conclusively proves that Mrs. Burns had some taste in music and art.

Dumfries, 16th July, 1818.

My Dear Sir,—I deferred answering your first letter until I should receive the books it promised. I have now to thank you for them in my own and my sons' name. It is a valuable addition to the other volumes. I have had no opportunity of judging the music, yet I have no doubt that it is arranged with your usual good taste to suit the words. The songs are almost all new to me. I observe some of them are written by Mr. Hogg, to whom I beg you will present my best compliments. I have incurred another very great obligation to you—your attention to the safety as well as to the improvement of Mr. Burns's portrait. It is very elegantly framed, and is a great—indeed, the greatest—ornament of my little parlour. A letter from Gilbert lately mentions you having refused to charge me with the expense of this costly frame. This is more than I wish or deserve. I am sorry to observe your ailments. Yours are of a particularly distressing kind. Warm baths seem the order of the day for rheumatism with us. My health is much improved, but I am still very unable to undergo any exertion. I fear I should not be able to climb your stairs if I were in Edinburgh. I have given up all prospect of travelling so far from home this season. Thank you for your kind inquiries after my sons. From and of James I hear very often. He has been very fortunate in being appointed to the Commissariat Department. The honour done me by the Marchioness of Hastings was on his account. What she said of James was most gratifying. From William, who is on the Madras establishment, I have not heard for a long time; indeed, I feel very uneasy about him. Robert—should have been first—is very well, and doing well in London. I have lengthened out this letter too much—more, I fear, than you will easily decipher. . . . —I am, dear Sir, yours obliged and sincerely,

JEAN BURNS.

Returning to the letters of Gilbert, we give the three following without comment, because they speak for themselves, dealing with two or three of the most controversial points relating to Burns and his work:—

Grant's Braes, 9th December, 1817.

. . . I have always considered that an elaborate vindication of my brother written by me, though I were much more capable of writing than I am, would be of very little avail, and that my purpose will be much better accomplished by simply affording a vehicle for the facts evidenced by Messrs. Gray and Findlater. I intend publishing the part of Mr. Gray's letter,

beginning at page fifteen, as it would be quite indecent in me to be the vehicle of publishing severe strictures on Dr. Currie or his work. As I intend being in town when you read this, I hope I shall have the pleasure of talking with you on the subject.—I remain, dear Sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

GILBERT BURNS.

Grant's Braes, 16th July, 1818.

Dear Sir,—I was extremely sorry to learn, by yours of the 11th, that you had been so ill as to be confined to bed, but hope this will find you in better health. I return the magazine with my best thanks. I was much pleased with "Lucy's Flitting," which I had never met with till I saw it there. I am not quite determined respecting the publishing the rough verses to the Lord Breadalbin. I meditate an application to Mr. Lumsden for the manuscript of the "Jolly Beggars" through the means of my son William, who, I expect, will soon be settled in Glasgow or its neighbourhood. I received a letter yesterday from Mrs. Burns, dated so far back as the 10th (having been mis-sent from the Edinburgh Post Office), and am sorry to learn that she has not sufficiently recovered to venture on a journey hither, which she had intended and promised me. Walking half a mile, or any equal fatigue, or any unusual agitation of mind, exposes her to considerable suffering of pain at the heart. She says:—"I received the picture quite safe, and feel infinitely obliged to Mr. Thomson for his unexpected kindness. It looks greatly better and much improved by travelling. I was glad to see it again. Mr. T. mentions in his letter an intention to send me an additional volume of songs; the expectation of this has prevented my writing to him, which I shall do as soon as I receive it. If you have any communication with him you may mention this." You will probably smile at the honest woman's apology for not writing you, which, perhaps, I ought to have covered with some periphrases, but thought you would be amused and pleased with the naked innocence of it. It strikes me that Dr. Currie has published two poems in the end of the fourth volume as my brother's which are not his, but which the Doctor having found among his MSS. and in his handwriting has concluded to be his. The one is a poem on "Pastoral Poetry," and the other the ballad following it on the "Battle of Sheriffmuir." This is surely an old ballad. I beg you will look into them and give me your opinion, and if at all doubtful I will not give them a place in any edition published under my sanction. I beg you will present my most respectful compliments to Mrs. Thomson, and hoping to hear that you have got quite rid of your rheumatism—I remain ever, dear Sir, yours sincerely,

GILBERT BURNS.

SIR,—I received your obliging letter on the 24th May, and have seen the review, which is indeed very gratifying. His opinion of the Poet's taste in letter-writing, however it may differ from ours and many others, he has a legitimate right to retain, and as a public critic to express. I am not at all disposed to quarrel with any literary criticism, if expressed with

proper deference to the author's feelings or that of his friends, but the abuse of private character is certainly out of the critic's way, and indicates a bad disposition. I only wrote Cadell & Davies yesterday, after receiving another letter from them pressing for my answer. I felt so sore on the subject that I had little inclination to write, and besides have been very much occupied of late. I wrote with rather more tartness than I intended, for when I began I found it difficult to repress a feeling of injurious treatment. I offered to expunge the paragraph relating to Dr. Currie altogether if that will satisfy his friends, but expressed my fixed determination that if I came forward as editor at all, the appendix I had sent them for the first volume should be brought forward also. It is only the early songs of my brother of which I know the heroines. "My Nannie O" was a farmer's daughter in Tarbolton Parish, the name Flemming, to whom the Poet paid some of that roving attention which he was constantly devoting to some one. Her charms were, indeed, mediocre, but what she had were sensual, which was indeed characteristic of the greater part of the Poet's mistresses. He was no platonic lover, whatever he might pretend or suppose of himself. "From Thee, Eliza"—her name was Miller, a sister of your acquaintance, Dr. M'Kenzie's wife. She was soon afterwards married to a Mr. Templeton, who kept a cloth shop in Mauchline, but died of her first child. "How Lang and Dreary is the Night"—I believe the Poet had no particular heroine in view in that song. "The Posie"—Mrs. Burns had got some fragments of a very old song on that subject, every stanza ending as this does. I believe he had no particular May in view. I do not think the Poet had any particular person in view in the composition of the following three—namely, "She's Fair and Fause," "Turn again, Thou Fair Eliza," "Ye Banks and Braes o' Bonnie Doon." "Jessie" was, I believe, Miss Jessie Staig, whose father was many years agent for the Bank of Scotland in Dumfries, but of this I am not quite sure. The Poet's fear of "Poortith Cauld," I suppose, was for his ain Jeanie. "The Restless Love" may be supposed a poetical embellishment. Of Mr. James Ferguson's history I know nothing. I expect a visit from Mrs. Burns this summer, and the subject of all or most of the songs is known to her, and when she comes you will know of it. GILBERT BURNS.

June, 1819.

The last letter, it will be noticed, is in reply to a communication from Thomson, who sent to Gilbert a tabulated list of a large number of the Poet's songs, asking who the heroines of them were. On 21st October, 1819, Gilbert Burns, writing from Grant's Braes, says—"Inclosed I return you sheet of song titles with all the information Mrs. Burns could give." The document (with the second column in Gilbert's handwriting) is as follows:—

"Mr. Thomson will be much gratified if Mrs. Burns will have the goodness to write down whatever she happens to know of the heroines of the following songs on the blank space opposite to each first line, and then return this sheet."

First Line of Song.

"Duncan Gray."

"Oh, Mary, at thy window be."

"Here awa', there awa', Wander-
ing Willie!" Who were the couple?

"When wild war's deadly blast
was blawn." Who was the Nancy
and who the Willie?

"Oh, ken ye what Meg o' the
Mill has gotten?" Who was Meg,
and who was the laird she married?

"Oh, poortith cauld." Who was
Jeanie?

"Farewell, thou stream that
winding flows." Who is the Maria
of this song?

"There was a lass, and she was
fair." Who was the Bonny Jean of
this song?

"Down winding Nith I did
wander." The heroine was Miss
Phillis Macmurdo, I know; whom
did she marry?

"Come, let me take thee to my
breast." The Jeanie of this song is,
I presume, Mrs. Burns.

"Oh, Philly, happy be that day!"
Who was the Philly and Willie!

"Sae flaxen were her ringlets."
This, I suppose, was Miss Lorimer.

"Lassie wi' the lint-white locks."
This, I imagine, was the same.

"Canst thou leave me thus, my
Katie?" Who was the Katie? She
wrote an answer to the song begin-
ning "Tell me, Willie, wilt believe
me?"

"Their groves of sweet myrtle."
Who was the Jean of this song?

*Maiden and Married Names of
Heroines, and of what place or
places.*

Both parties imaginary.

Mary Morrison was the heroine
of some old light verses beginning
"I'll kiss thee yet." Burns is not
supposed to have had any particular
person in view.

Was originally written on a certain
lady going to the West Indies in
quest of her husband, but is much
altered from its original form.

Supposed to be merely a fancy
picture.

Is the beginning of an old song.
Burns is not supposed to have had
any particular person in view either
for Meg or for the Laird.

A Miss Jane Blackstock—after-
wards Mrs. —, of Liverpool.

No particular Maria in view. It
was at first Eliza.

Miss Macmurdo — since Mrs.
Crawford.

Now Mrs. Lockart, of Carnwath.

Mrs. B. is vexed Mr. T. should
not remember that her eyes are not
blue! The Jeanie here alluded to
was Miss Blackstock, above men-
tioned.

Supposed to be Miss Phillis Mac-
murdo; the Willie imaginary.

Mr. T. is right in both.

Mrs. B. does not know who Katie
was, or if the Poet had any person
in view.

It is reasonable to suppose that
the Jean of this song was Mrs. Burns,
but intended for the chosen of every
reader or singer, whether her name
should be Jean or Kate, or any other
name unknown.

"Here's a health to ane I lo'e dear." Who is the Jessie of this song?

"Fairest maid on Devon's banks." Who was the fair maid?

"The Catrine woods were yellow seen." Who is Maria of this song?

"Oh, Tibbie, I hae seen the day!" Who was Tibbie?

"Clarinda, mistress of my soul." Who was this lady?

"I gaed a waefu' gate yestreen." Who was Miss J. of Lochmaben, afterwards Mrs. R., of New York?

"Oh, meikle thinks my luve." Who was the fair here alluded to?

"Ance mair I hail thee, thou gloomy December." Who was the Nancy of this song?

"Slow spreads the gloom my soul desires." Who was the admired fair here mentioned?

"Flow gently, sweet Afton." Who was the Mary of this song?

Miss Jessie Lewars, of Dumfries, now Mrs. Thomson, a deservedly great favourite of the Poet's, and a soothing and kind friend to Mrs. Burns at the time of her husband's death.

Miss Charlotte Hamilton, originally from Mauchline, afterwards Mrs. Adair, of Harrowgate.

Miss Whiteford, daughter of the late John Whiteford, now Mrs. Cranston, on parting from scenes of her innocence and youth.

A very early production. Tibbie (Steven), daughter of a farmer in Ayrshire.

Why does Mr. T. ask who Clarinda was?

Miss Jeffrey afterwards . . .

This song was founded on a fragment of a very old one, of which the last stanza is nearly entire.

The Poet's Clarinda.

Mrs. Burns, as well as Gilbert Burns, thinks this song not Burns's, but should be glad to know where Mr. T. had it.

The Poet's Highland Mary. But Dr. Currie gives a different account of it, page 332, vol. iv. 7th edition, where he says—"Afton water is a stream over which stands Afton Lodge, in which Mrs. Stewart resided—from Stair. Afton Lodge was Mrs. Stewart's property from her father. The song was presented to her in return for her notice—the first he ever received from any person in her rank of life." G. B. thinks Dr. C. misinformed in several of the above particulars, but he (Dr. C.) must not be contradicted.

In the same list the following songs are given as having imaginary characters—"Oh, Logan, Sweetly Did'st Thou Glide," "How Lang and Dreary is the Nicht," "Oh, Whistle and I'll Come to You, My Lad," "Now Rosey May Comes in with Flowers," "Thine Am I, My Faithful Fair," "Wilt Thòu Be My Dearie?" "Here is the Glen and Here the Bower," "How Can My Poor Heart be Glad?" "Hark, the Mavis," "Ye Banks and Braes o' Bonnie Doon," "Now in Her Green Mantle," "Oh, Stay, Sweet Warbler," "Last May a Braw Wooer," "John Anderson,"

“My Heart is a-Breaking, Dear Titty,” “What Can a Young Lassie?” “Oh for Ane-and-Twenty, Tam,” and “In Summer when the Hay was Mawn.”

In the same letter in which Gilbert Burns returns the list he makes reference to the Mausoleum at Dumfries, and says he is better pleased with the marbles there than he expected to be, apparently referring to Turnerelli's use of the portrait lent by Mrs. Burns.

GILBERT BURNS ON THE PORTRAITS.

What Gilbert Burns has to say regarding the Nasmyth portrait and the Beugo engraving is of the utmost interest, and opens up anew a question long since supposed to be settled for good and all. We give his letter without further comment, beyond the query, “Where is the ‘black profile’ done by a ‘M. Houghton?’”

Grant's Braes, 2nd July, 1821.

My Dear Sir,—I received yours of the 27th June. Nasmyth's picture is certainly a very good likeness of the poet, and, I believe, was the sole guide of the artist in preparing the marble figure for the Dumfries Mausoleum, and which without doubt has some likeness, but I hope Mr. Flaxman will be able to produce a better. I used to think Beugo's engraving from Nasmyth's picture showed more character and expression than the picture itself, but it was the first likeness of my brother I had seen, not having seen the picture till long after, and perhaps the impression then made on my mind may have made me partial to the engraving. I had a copy of the Edinburgh edition with the engraving in it lately, but cannot at present find it, and I do not know any person who has that edition; but I hope mine will yet cast up, and if it does I will send it to you if you have not then got another. I should suppose Robert Ainslie may have it, and perhaps a proof impression. I have a small black profile done by a Mr. Houghton, which I got from Mr. Alexander Cunninghame, but I got it broken bringing it home in my pocket in the coach. The features are distinctly, and, I think, pretty exactly, delineated, and if you think it can be of any use I will send it. Are you to make any excursion to the country this summer? Will you come and stay a few days with me? I will procure you a quiet pony which will carry you safely on a more deliberate visit to Yester, where you will see the Goblin Cave. I beg you will present Mrs. B.'s and my best compliments to Mrs. Thomson and the young ladies, and believe me to be ever, my dear Sir, yours sincerely,

GILBERT BURNS.

Grant's Braes, 24th September, 1821.

My Dear Sir,—I take the opportunity of John being here to send you the black profile by his return. I have not yet recovered my copy with Beugo's engraving, nor can I find one in this neighbourhood; but as there must be many here, I hope yet to find one or recover my own, and will

write you what occurs to me on further and closer examination. From your conversation with Mr. Beugo, however, I think my predilection for his engraving must have arisen from having seen it *first*, and being struck with its resemblance long before I saw Nasmyth's picture. Great caution is necessary to prevent being misled by Beugo's idea of silencing the modern lip; as though the Poet brought his lips together when not speaking, yet the lips showed a separation outward, as you will likewise observe in the black profile. To make the Poet *mim-mou'd* will not do, and I think the lips of all faces of spirit show a separation outward. Upon the whole the works of artists who are accustomed to an accurate professional examination of features, and who were on the alert to produce a good likeness, must be more to be depended upon than the recollection of any person whatever. I am to write to Mrs. Burns in a day or two, and will request her to send Nasmyth's picture to you, as she will be readier to trust it to your care than to a person unknown. Mr. Kerr, one of the Magistrates of Dumfries, has a black profile by another artist, which he thinks very like (and he was very familiar with the living face). I will try to prevail with him to send his profile along with Mrs. Burns's picture, and when you get all the likenesses together write me, and I will come to Edinburgh and examine them with you, and will then be able to determine with more precision which has the greatest resemblance. . . .

GILBERT BURNS.

Dumfries, 8th October, 1821.

My Dear Sir,—By some delay I did not receive your letter of the 27th September till the 2nd of this. I fear you must blame me for allowing so many days to pass without noticing your request. I send off the picture once more, trusting it to your responsibility. I must own I feel an unwillingness to part with it, but when I consider the respect and honour which the nation seemed inclined to pay to the memory of its original, I give up my own selfish feeling. I had a letter from my brother Gilbert about the same time as yours, in which he requests me to endeavour to procure a profile in the possession of Provost Kerr. With some difficulty, through the medium of a friend, who had to promise his responsibility for its safety, I have at length succeeded. The reason of Mr. Kerr's unwillingness to part with the profile is that he considered it very much injured when last in Edinburgh for a similar purpose. I must therefore recommend it to the particular care of the gentleman you mention. I trust that they will be returned with the least possible delay. You have my best thanks for your polite invitation to your city. I have no chance of accepting this year. Another may bring it round; in the meantime, offer my kindest wishes to Mrs. Thomson and all your family. The last accounts from my sons in India were very agreeable; they are both rising in their profession, and by every account conducting themselves with the greatest propriety. The box that encloses the picture is the same in which it came last from Edinburgh. Should you think it necessary you can send it to

London in a stronger one, and have it made large enough to admit the profile, which is in a small box. By this means it will be safe.—I am, my dear Sir, yours very faithfully,
JEAN BURNS.

Grant's Braes, 19th January, 1826.

My Dear Sir,—I received your obliging letter inclosing one to Mr. Lockhart, which I approve of most fully. I am afraid, however, he will already have fixed on his mode of treating the subject, or probably have most of it written out.

I cannot conceive what could induce him to enter on a subject which has so long been before the public, and which had been so successfully treated by Dr. Currie, but as he writes with vigour I shall be curious to see how he managed the matter. If he attempts to give any familiar view of the Poet's character in the Boswellian style, his work will present false views of the character of the man, and will probably contain some contemptible and injurious gossip.

The last letter I had from Mrs. Burns was towards the end of November. She had not then had any late intelligence from her sons in India, but I am willing to believe that neither of them are engaged in the Burmese war, though Mrs. Burns does not seem to be informed on the subject. It is an anxious situation for anyone to have connections in, for though the Burmese do not appear to wait on much fighting, the alternate heat and damp of the climate must occasion a great destruction of human life, especially among those who are natives of a more temperate climate. . . . I hope the passing years are pressing lightly on Mrs. Thomson, and that no abridgement of enjoying life has been felt by either of you. Some time ago my stomach lost its tone, and I thought I was about to decline very rapidly. Lately, however, I have recovered more strength and vigour than I ever expected to enjoy again.

GILBERT BURNS.

The following two letters are from sons of the Poet :—

Dumfries, 15th May, 1811.

Sir,—I hope you will excuse the liberty I have taken of writing to you just now, but the reason is this. When in Edinburgh you was so kind as to promise me a copy of the songs you gave my brother whenever I came that way. Sir James Shaw has given me a cadetship in the East India Service, with orders to be in London directly, so that it will not be in my power to go by sea, for fear of being too late for the ship. If you would give the books to the bearer, who has an opportunity of sending them to Dumfries, from where they may be forwarded to me with the rest of my things, it will much oblige your obedient servant,

JAMES G. BURNS.

Cheltenham, 12th April, 1847.

My dear Sir,—I have been favoured with your letter of the 2nd inst., and cannot sufficiently express my thanks for the splendid present you have made me of the original model of Flaxman's statue of my father. It shall be highly cherished and transmitted to some of the lineal descendants of the Poet. When in Edinburgh last, I learnt that some of your friends proposed presenting you with a piece of plate. I had much pleasure in enrolling myself in their number; it would have added much to the gratification, however, to have been present at its presentation. My brother joins in kind compliments to yourself and family, with yours very truly,

W. BURNS.



MR. W. E. HENLEY AS BURNS CRITIC.

IF a nation has been accustomed to indulge its fancy with a little innocent hero-worship, it is generally a less or more painful experience when a ruthless iconoclast sweeps across the path of its worshippers and demolishes the object of their adoration. It may be assumed that no community is more likely to be sensitive on such a point as the countrymen of Burns. The loyalty Scotland has always manifested towards those of her sons who have done honour to the land of their birth by achievements in art, science, and literature, not to mention military fame, is very great. By the realisation of this fact it may be assumed, in all coolness and candour, that the susceptibilities of Scotsmen have been severely tried by Mr. Henley's criticism of their favourite Bard. It is just probable, of course, that Scotsmen have carried their devotion for Burns to an irritating extent in the estimation of the disinterested on-looker, who is said to form the most correct estimate of the game, and that the time has come for the countrymen of Burns to pause and revise their sentiments, or have a rude awakening from the sweet illusion that has possessed their souls for the last hundred years or more. Nor can the Burns worshipper, in his attitude of devotion, quite despise the hand that is laid upon his shoulder bidding him arise and see that he "do it not." The name of Mr. W. E. Henley is by no means unknown in English literature; he not only assumes the functions of a critic, but he has written a number of poems not undeserving of a high place among the productions of English minor poets. With this combination of poet and critic in an enlightened degree, Mr. Henley has, perhaps, more than the ordinary right to sit in judgment on a brother bard, if he believes the circumstances demand it, but there is just a tinge of arrogance and cocksureness in his summing up of Burns's case which is not void of offence, even to the moderate admirer of the Scots Poet. It is just possible

that Mr. Henley is in possession of information on the subject of Burns's character that is rarely accessible to those outside the authoritative circle of literary criticism, but, as he does not furnish any new documentary evidence, my criticism of his famous essay must be largely confined to an examination of his views compared with the views of those who have previously expressed themselves on the subject. The feelings of depression one experiences in reading this essay are frequently lighted up with a gleam of consciousness that Mr. Henley has not said the last word on Burns, and that many of the shortcomings and weaknesses of the Poet which are reiterated here with a sardonic grin will, in the near future, receive a different complexion in the hands of a higher-souled criticism than that which has fallen from his pen. After the laudatory notices Mr. Henley's essay has received from the press of both England and Scotland, it needs some effort and resolution to venture on a less appreciative view. Indeed, the press notices, many of them, are so commendatory and uncritical that one is curious to know whether the reviewers have taken the trouble to examine the essay as thoroughly as it demands. To commence with, the writers of these notices do not appear to realise how closely Mr. Henley has followed R. L. Stevenson's line of criticism. In common with a number of R. L. Stevenson's admirers, his criticism of Burns is, to me, the least satisfactory piece of writing he has left us, and it were better it had fallen from his pen still-born than that it should have gone down to posterity as a reproach to his great talents. Indeed, it might be assumed that it would have been the least satisfactory to himself had he lived long enough to bring to the subject a more mature judgment. The greater portion of Stevenson's Essay on Burns is more the reflection of a vivacious story-teller than of the sure-footed biographer or the judicious critic. It should never be forgotten that the Burns essay was written when Stevenson was a very young man, and the desire to say something smart and original is apparent throughout rather than a desire for veracity ; it is a matter, therefore, for regret that Mr. Henley, though a great admirer of Stevenson, should have followed his model so slavishly—more slavishly, indeed, than is consistent with a production which several writers in the press have characterised as original. Even Stevenson's characterisation of Burns as a

kind of Don Juan reappears in Mr. Henley's essay *ad nauseam*. In expressing such a view, it is not necessary to be reminded that Mr. Henley takes exception to several of Stevenson's statements and opinions, for the main bias is unmistakable throughout the greater part of the essay. Seeing it is more particularly on the personal character and reputation of Burns that Mr. Henley has cast his aspersions, it is not my intention to follow him in his criticism of the merits or demerits of Burns's more important poetical work, or discuss his position among the poets of his country. Mr. Henley is so much in agreement with Carlyle's dictum that no additional light has been shed on that part of the subject, that the world would have been just as well informed on this point if Mr. Henley's essay had never been written.

In the prefatory part of the essay Mr. Henley sounds an important key-note, and fills one with hopes of great things to come, but one is woefully soon disenchanted. When he enters the region of the historic, and attempts to show what Burns did for the religious and intellectual freedom of Scotland, he is exhausted in a few sentences. The remainder of the essay is scarcely ever consistent with the prefatory section, as will be clearly manifest to anyone who cares to make the comparison. When, however, it is a question of Burns's personal character, then Mr. Henley appears to have drawn from a variety of sources, or perhaps it would be more correct to say that he has raked among many dung-heaps; in any case, if the odour with which he has scented the breeze in the wake of the Poet has been congenial to himself, it has not been so to many people who have taken the trouble to analyse the methods by which it has been achieved. The unreliable authority of the gossip-monger, the malignity of the jealous, the prejudices of the theologian, the Poet's own exaggerated view of his failings and shortcomings in moments of contrition and remorse, have all been brought into requisition by Mr. Henley to make up the picture of Burns he has endeavoured to palm on the British public with that peculiar aggressiveness which becomes more and more distasteful. The obvious reason for this is with the view of posing as an original and keen-sighted Burns critic. It will not be matter for surprise, then, if one who appears to make this the dominating idea should occasionally be fantastical, giving much unnecessary prominence to commonplaces and

trivialities. For instance, Mr. Henley quotes Burns's reference to the now famous factor who threatened his father with legal proceedings, and, as Burns says, sat for the picture he drew of one in the tale of the "Twa Dogs." The inflated importance Mr. Henley assumes here is quite grotesque, and leads one to infer that he will never be overtaken with the misfortune that befel the ancient philosopher who, in gazing at the stars, was drowned in the well at his feet. The factor's verses in the "Twa Dogs," says Mr. Henley, "are less a *picture* than a record of proceedings, a note on the genus factor;" after which he refers the reader to the effect of any one of Chaucer's Pilgrims, compared with the sketch of Cæsar and Luath in the "Twa Dogs," and goes on to say that "the factor as individual is found utterly wanting."* Without dwelling on the relative merits of Chaucer and Burns, suffice it to say that it is not a vital point here. The fact of Burns using the word "picture," when, according to Mr. Henley, it would have been more correct to have called it "a record of proceedings," might well have been allowed to pass. To make so much of a trivial point of this sort is to descend to the merest verbal quibbling, and is a sacrificing of effort which would have been better employed on other points of the subject vastly more important. Since it has been made so prominent a point, however, we might remind Mr. Henley that the word "picture" has a latitude in the poetic mind which is pretty generally understood. If he had been better acquainted with the mode of expression prevalent among the Scots people, even at this day, than he seems to be, he would have known that Burns was simply using a current term which clearly conveyed the idea he wished to impart.

This is one of many instances to show that our critic is not particular as to the instrument he employs in his work of depreciation. Moreover, in case the reader should conclude that Burns's habit of mind was other than gross and indecent, he gives a quotation from Saunders Tait, the Tarbolton poetaster, who wrote of Burns and a brother poet in the following terms:—

"There's nane like you and Burns can tout
The bawdy horn."†

* Essay, p. 245.

† Essay, p. 248.

One feels this is slender evidence to base a conclusion upon; there is no allowance here for the jealousy of a less gifted rhymster, which is so conspicuous that no other Burns critic till the advent of Mr. Henley thought worth while to emphasise or even to mention it. No better authority, perhaps, can be advanced in support of the charge of jealousy against Tait than the quotation Mr. Henley has given on the next page, from this coarse and vulgar rhymster, which runs thus—

“ Now I must trace his pedigree,
Because he made a sang on me,
And let the world look and see
Just wi’ my tongue,
How he and Cloutie did agree
When he was young.” *

What can be more transparent than that the lampoon was written by Tait because Burns had made a song on him of which he evidently felt the smart? But as Mr. Henley answers Mr. Henley on this point, we may pass on to another.

We are further to understand that Burns had “the temperament of the *viveur*—the man who rejoiced to live his life”

. . . “and that the white flower of a blameless life was never a button-hole for him.” That he did not live a blameless life surely no one will dispute. Who has lived a blameless life any more than Burns, even among those who have been most eager to defame his character and heap reproach upon the ashes of the dead? Burns was a sinner more sinned against than almost any other man of genius we can call to mind, and this fact has been urged again and again; but the result only convinces one what a hopeless task it is to attempt to silence the tongue of slander, or prevent posterity from bearing false witness. Nothing is clearer than that Burns did not rejoice to live his life when he strayed from the path of rectitude.

“ Where human weakness has come short,
Or frailty stept aside,”

Burns was the most penitent of men, and, in the very agony and depth of his repentance, was ever prone to exaggerate his own weakness and folly; yet this very exaggeration has been from time to time turned into a weapon to lacerate his own back with, particularly by those who find satisfaction in casting

opprobrium on any great reputation that stultifies their own. If Burns was naked, he knew it, and was ashamed. Mr. Henley has resorted to many ingenious methods to convey the impression that though he was conscious of his nakedness he was not ashamed; that he had the temperament of the *viveur*, the fast man, "the man who rejoiced to live his life." Is it possible for any conclusion to be more fanciful or incorrect? In holding to the view previously stated, we cannot truthfully be accused of apologising for Burns, but rather endeavouring to take him frankly and as he is. Not only has Mr. Henley striven to exhibit Burns as a fast man—a man of blunted moral sense—but we are further asked to behold him as a poor spectacle in the by-paths of literature limping into notoriety by the aid of other men's crutches, and that, too, in the dignified phrasing so eminently Henleyesque. Burns "had a difficulty," says our critic, "in commencing, and began by borrowing his style, as well as divers hints from stall-artists and neighbour cuckoos."* Most people know—nor did Burns himself ever conceal the fact—that he owed something to Ramsay and Fergusson; and it is just possible he took divers hints from innominates; but to no greater extent was he indebted to his predecessors than many other distinguished men of letters. With respect to Ramsay and Fergusson, the general consensus of opinion is that Burns in his warm-hearted generosity estimated too highly the poetical merits of his two predecessors, and Mr. Henley does not scruple to use it against him as an evidence of his want of originality. It would be interesting to know why our critic has singled out Burns from the hosts of other literary men who have been quite as much indebted to their predecessors as he was. Have not the most of our great writers commenced by working from the models of their predecessors without compromising their originality, and ultimately ending by dominating their first masters as Burns did? Is there not abundant evidence to prove Shakspeare's obligations to Montaigne? This has been very clearly demonstrated lately by Mr. J. M. Robertson, in his volume entitled "Montaigne and Shakspeare." In the volume mentioned it is shown that he worked over old plays, and in many instances he imbibed

* Essay, p. 261.

the ideas of other writers. It may be urged, and very properly too, that the transmission of such ideas from their original setting by the hand of genius has enriched them, and made them to function in a wider sphere, but the fact remains just as much in the case of Shakspeare as it does in that of Burns. Moreover, was not Shakspeare—were not his predecessors and contemporaries—influenced by the Roman classical authors to a marvellous degree? Even the five acts so prevalent among the Elizabethan dramatists were borrowed from Seneca. The operatic chorus, too, which is still with us, is a survival from the classical drama. Has not Goethe described himself as a formative *plexus* of countless various streams of literary force? “Every one of my writings,” he declared, “has been furnished to me by a thousand different persons, a thousand different things.” Did space permit, one might produce example after example to show that the term originality is a relative term, that it has more to do with treatment than ideas; and methods of criticism which cannot justly be applied to any other author, living or dead, have no right to be applied to Burns, no matter from what motives.

Having endeavoured to show the futility of Mr. Henley’s insinuation of plagiarism as applied to Burns, let us take another point. We are to believe that Burns had but a poor command of the English language, and, as far as our critic can see, “he might have lived and died an English-writing Scot, and nobody been a thrill or a memory the better for his work.”* We have here another instance in which Mr. Henley takes Burns’s estimate of his own capacity too literally, and in circumstances in which most impartial critics who had properly mastered the subject would admit that Burns erred on the side of humility. It appears that Burns had once complained to Dr. Moore of his imperfect command of English. Matthew Arnold was the first critic who took the Poet’s admission at all seriously, and Mr. Henley has spun a whole theory out of it. For example, “that the supreme capacities of English were sealed from him until the end,”† and that his English pieces are so inferior that, had it not been for those in the vernacular, nothing could have saved his reputation from oblivion. Happily, such strictures may appeal to the ignorant or

*Essay, p. 263.

† Page 275.

uncritical, but certainly not to those who are capable of forming an opinion for themselves. What says Dr. Moore on the subject? "In your letter," he says, in writing to Burns, "you hint at your scarcity of English. I am far from thinking that is the case. On the contrary, I am convinced that you already possess that language in an uncommon degree."* This was at least nine years before Burns died, and after 1787 some of his best work was produced. It must also be borne in mind that Dr. Moore was himself a writer of some distinction both as a novelist and the author of a book of travels, and therefore his opinion is entitled to more than ordinary respect. Apart from this, Burns's own writings show, as Dr. Moore said, that he possessed English in an uncommon degree, and Mr. Henley himself says, at page 234 of his essay, that he (meaning Burns) had a "matchless gift of speech." But we willingly leave the task of reconciling this statement with the one quoted from page 275 to Mr. Henley's own superior ingenuity. Before finally quitting this part of the subject, however, it would perhaps be correct to say that the vernacular, though not so stately or having so extensive a range of capacity as English, was a more appropriate medium of expression for the particular themes Burns dealt with. Those themes were just such as appealed to the populace, and enabled Burns to become the great emancipating and instructive force he was. This could have been accomplished in no other way than by the uncommon gift of being able to reflect those themes and incidents which were so closely interwoven with the every-day life of the people among whom the Poet lived and moved. This presupposes that wit and humour were not his only and dominating qualities, though Mr. Henley subordinates every other quality to these, giving Burns scant credit for genuine sentiment or pathos. What was it but a faithful delineation of the scenes and incidents, together with a genuine sentiment, with which the people were familiar, that first and most endeared the "Cottar's Saturday Night" to the Scottish peasantry? Strange to say, it is when Mr. Henley comes to deal with the "Cottar's Saturday Night" that his chronic rage leaps forth most vehemently. Because Lockhart (Burns's kindest and best biographer) speaks favourably of it, he accuses him of being ever the true and

*Dunlop Correspondence, pp. 33 and 34. (Hodder & Stoughton. 1898.)

misguided son of the manse. "The 'Saturday Night,'" Mr. Henley goes on to say, "was doomed to popularity from the first, being of its essence sentimental, and therefore pleasingly untrue." *

Without stopping to dispute with our critic as to "its tenuity of inspiration, its poverty of rhythm and diction," as he is pleased to phrase it, let us consider the mere outward circumstances of the case apart from literary construction or artistic principle. If the "Cottar's Saturday Night," as a poem, had all these defects to the exaggerated degree indicated, how are we to account for its popularity? Certainly not because it is "sentimental and pleasingly untrue."† A poem that has no higher claims than these would soon lose its power of appeal to intelligent minds, nor could it long escape the coils of oblivion, as the "Cottar's Saturday Night" has continued to do. Does Mr. Henley mean to convey the impression that there were no facts and incidents in the life and surroundings of the Scots peasantry in Burns's day to justify the picture he has drawn? Are we to infer that the whole conception was merely a figment of Burns's own imagination, and that he was simply masquerading in the guise of the Pharisee by way of appeasing the *odium theologicum* which his fearless pen had incurred! No one who understands the true character of Burns, or has grasped the scope of his work, will believe this for a moment. The world of the "Cottar's Saturday Night" may be too much in the grip of Puritanism to be a beautiful world in the æsthetic sense; it may lack the grace, the freedom, "the high seriousness," which distinguished the poetic criticism of life in many of the best models of the classical world, but the "Cottar's Saturday Night" is a true picture all the same. The writer's recollection of the habits and customs prevalent in the rural districts of Scotland extends to a period of upwards of forty years. To go no further back than this, it was very exceptional to find a cottage in which family worship was not regularly observed, especially of a Saturday night, not to speak of a hundred years ago, which takes us near to Burns's own day; yet Mr. Henley, with that cocksuredness which is a distinguishing feature of his editorial functions in reference to Burns, tells us "it is pleasingly untrue." When he made such a statement his eye must have

* Essay, p. 277.

† Essay, p. 277.

been on the wage-earning classes of Whitechapel, not on the cottar of the rural districts of Scotland.

It might be instructive at this stage to pause and enquire what inference is to be drawn from all this? It certainly proves for one thing the utter incapacity of a town or city-bred man, whether he be Englishman or Scotsman, to form a correct conception of the social and intellectual world in which Burns played his part. This is specially true of the town or city-bred man of to-day. The arbitrary division which once separated the commercial life of Scotland from its rural life is all but swept away, and the one is to a large extent merged in the other. To form anything like a correct conception of Burns and his world requires a Carlyle, who was himself a peasant born, and who not only lived near to Burns's own time, but was familiar with his environment, could grasp his habit of mind, and knew the national sympathies and aspirations to which the poetry of Burns appealed.

Leaving that part of the subject, however, we will now proceed to the question of Highland Mary, a point upon which Mr. Henley has shown an audacity that baffles comprehension. The subject of Burns and Highland Mary is far too large a question to be disposed of within reasonable limits, and must be as briefly stated as the necessities of the case will permit. Mr. Henley has referred to Highland Mary, so long identified as the object of Burns's purest passion, as a "light-skirts," or, if she was not, her story has yet to be written; after which he proceeds to describe the bronze monument erected at Dunoon, "as an abiding witness to the existence of what can only be described as a national delusion."* Considering Mr. Henley's whole attitude on the subject of Burns, it will surprise few to find him setting his individual wisdom against that of a whole nation, though that nation has learning and intelligence enough to have a voice in its own historical records. If he is in possession of any trustworthy evidence to show that the Mary Campbell of the Dundonald Register and Burns's Highland Lassie are one and the same person, he has failed to produce it. Taken to task on the point, he airily replies (*New Review*, June, 1897), "of course it has not been proved that the Mary Campbell of Burns was the Dundonald Highland Mary." "The Dundonald Session Record" was examined and sifted

* Essay, p. 292.

by the officials of the Burns Federation years before Henley, Aitken, or Eric Robertson knew of its existence, and it was found to be a coincidence of names only, in which no individual of the name of Burns is even once mentioned. His inuendoes here rest upon the Henleyan postulate that *any* Mary Campbell is *the* Mary Campbell, provided she is black enough to harmonise with the rest of his picture. Again, why does Mr. Henley ignore the testimony of Burns's betrothal to Highland Mary in the Poet's own handwriting in the Bibles now in the Ayr Monument? If he denies the authenticity of that testimony, where is his proof? The story of Highland Mary has yet to be written, he says; he speaks so emphatically about the Dundonald Register and a "light-skirts," that he conveys the impression that his own version of the story is the true one, and the one that holds the field. If Mr. Henley is capable of being taught, he may learn in time that he does not know all that can be known on the subject of Burns, though he approaches it in his essay as if he were Sir Oracle. He does not appear to know, or purposely ignores the fact, that the story of Burns and Highland Mary has been investigated again and again by most careful and painstaking writers, that the evidence produced is as positive as can ever be within the reach of any man, and that all is indicative of the most unquestionable chastity. There is also the Richmond-Train story which Mr. Henley has quoted—a story that would not be regarded as trustworthy by any literary man who respected his own reputation, not to speak of that of Burns. Finally, can anyone imagine more futile evidence than that which Mr. Henley has given in one of his notes—"Burns," he says, "sent 'Thou Linger Star' to Mrs. Dunlop, in a letter dated 1789. In acknowledging it the lady noted its remorseful cast, and hoped it did not set forth a personal experience. There is nothing to show he gave her any particulars."* Most people would have here come to the conclusion that Burns had too much common-sense to give any particulars to a lady of a love affair with another, especially as the nature of Mrs. Dunlop's letters shows that she was anxious to occupy first place in his thoughts—not as a lover, it is true, but in the highest platonic relationship. Even apart from this, it is not

* Essay, p. 288.

usual for a man, especially if his attachment has been a sincere one, to make his affections the subject of common gossip; and no one can read Burns's lines to "Mary in Heaven" without the strongest conviction that his affection for Highland Mary was of a deep and sincere nature.

Coming now to the too commonly assumed connection of Burns with the "Merry Muses," there is perhaps no part of Mr. Henley's essay more inexplicable than the way he emphasises Burns's connection with that ribald little volume, and without in any way justifying his position by authority. Indeed, the glory he seems to take "in wallowing in the mire" of this collection of filthy and indecent songs, which have from time to time been ascribed to Burns, does not give one an exalted idea of Mr. Henley's literary tastes. To say the least, it creates a suspicion in one's mind that our critic is an individual of eccentric tastes, for the filth of the "Merry Muses" is not redeemed by a single spark of wit from beginning to end. In the whole history of Scottish literature these ribald compositions have never before found an apologist, far less an advocate; but Mr. Henley speaks of the "Merry Muses" "as unique and precious," and "bears witness to an entirely admirable talent." Let it not be forgotten that Mr. Henley does occasionally sound a note of praise in Burns's favour. Indeed, there are even moments when he seems as if he could take him to his bosom, and "lo'e him like a very brither," but it is when he imagines he sees the unclean spirit of the "Merry Muses" reflected in Burns's character at every point. Those of us who feel out at elbows with Mr. Henley here should, perhaps, remember that most men have a bias from which it is difficult to shake themselves free. We need not, therefore, marvel at Mr. Henley, even though his bias should be an ardent love of bathing in polluted waters, while his inmost nature revolts against the waters of the limpid stream.

To return to the "Merry Muses," however, this collection of songs, as is well-known, was originally entitled the "Merry Muses of Caledonia," to which the name of Burns was subsequently annexed, obviously with the view of popularising it, and causing money to flow more rapidly into the coffers of the nefarious publishers concerned. The effective manner in which Mr. M'Naught, the editor of the *Burns Chronicle*, in his

analysis of the various editions of the "Merry Muses," has disposed of the evidence commonly given in support either of Burns's authorship or editorship, should be sufficient for any impartial mind. It is quite true that Burns in 1787 was introduced as a member of the Crochallan Fencibles by his friend, William Smellie. This collection of songs was used by the Fencibles, and shows the vulgarity of the tastes of the educated of that day, whose example would have been less hurtful to all concerned "if they had assumed a virtue though they had it not." The Crochallan Club had been in existence at least ten years before Burns became a member, and he had little opportunity of attending its meetings, except during his short stay in Edinburgh. Unfortunately, he became associated with the Crochallanites; he touched pitch, and was defiled thereby, and it has clung to his memory like an evil spirit, though there is no evidence to prove that he was responsible for the existence of the "Merry Muses" in vogue at the club. The internal evidence against the assumption is not the least important point; they do not bear a single mark of Burns's fire, wit, or genius, but are the quintessence of the baldest indecency. In fact, when all the circumstances are taken into consideration, to quote the words of the Editor of the *Burns Chronicle*—"the association of Burns's name, either as author or editor, with the ribald volume, entitled the 'Merry Muses,' is not only an unwarranted mendacity, but one of the grossest outrages ever perpetrated on the memory of a man of genius."* Even though the entire manuscript of the "Merry Muses" had been discovered in the handwriting of Burns, that would be in no sense sufficient proof to establish either his authorship or his editorship. It is not necessary to emphasise this statement further than to say that the lyrical muse of Burns was appealed to by Johnston and Thomson, who were making a collection of old Scots songs, and he at once placed it at their command. This put him on the alert, and he eagerly pursued every old ditty of which he got the slightest hint, it mattered not whether it was merely a fragment or a chorus. These he completed, recomposed, amended, or entirely reset. The fact was that a number of the most beautiful airs were attached to indecent

* *Burns Chronicle*, 1894, p. 28.

verses ; and Burns set himself the task of composing verses for such airs, in order that they should be, as far as possible, regenerated and purged of their leprosy. For instance, "John Anderson My Jo," in its original form, was extremely coarse, yet it was adapted to a fine church melody, "John, Come Kiss Me Now." "We're a' Noddin'," and many other songs which might be mentioned, were in this way clarified by Burns and made classic. In accomplishing his purpose he was compelled to copy all manner of verses—good, bad, and indifferent—consequently his hand-writing, if urged, is no evidence of authorship whatever.

Now, passing from this portion of the subject, we come to another which played an important part in the Poet's career, viz., the Dunlop correspondence. This correspondence, which had extended over a period of nine years, abruptly terminated about a year before the Poet's death, and the cause of this abrupt termination has not been satisfactorily cleared up to this day. It is not definitely known whether it was the fault of the Poet or the fault of Mrs. Dunlop ; but on this point, as on others, Mr. Henley has no hesitation in giving his opinion. "It may have been," he says, "that she heard of him as often in drink." For this statement our critic furnishes no authority ; in fact, he can furnish none worth a moment's consideration. After reading the Burns-Dunlop correspondence, the inevitable impression left on the reader's mind is the unjustifiable extent to which the lady was exacting in her demands on the Poet under all circumstances. At times his temper and patience must have been sorely tried. For one thing, her letters were unpardonably long and prosy ; and, though it cannot be said that they were ever quite void of interest, they nearly always wanted tact. She lectured him repeatedly, found fault with the freedom of his verses, and played the part of Mrs. Grundy in a most unpleasant fashion, though it was all done with the best intentions. In addition to this, she frequently upbraided the Poet for omitting to refer to some trivial matter she had mentioned in a previous letter "supposing he had thrown her letter into the waste-paper basket, thinking it not worth reading ;" and she was continually making other trifling accusations, such as women too frequently vex the soul of man with, and which are especially irritating to the soul of genius. Thus it was, in spite of the repeated assurances the Poet gave her,

maintaining in the most emphatic manner that her letters interested and delighted him. During the whole trying ordeal, Burns never once manifested the slightest impatience or want of courtesy, which was greatly to his credit. Nor was Mrs. Dunlop ignorant by any means of the difficulties against which Burns had to strive; yet she became more and more exacting as the correspondence went on, until one's pity for the poor, unfortunate Poet well-nigh effaces all consciousness of the talents and virtues of his fair correspondent. It is hardly possible to imagine the trial it must have been to Burns, just at a period of his life when he was under the greatest pressure of circumstances. He was poor, in failing health, and worried with anxiety about the future welfare of Jean and his helpless offspring. Moreover, at this very time he was labouring hard for Johnson's "Museum of Scottish Song," to which he contributed no fewer than two hundred and twenty-eight songs, preserving fifty of the finest Scottish melodies. The verses to which these melodies were originally attached were so coarse and improper that they were only saved from extinction by Burns's reforming hand.* Had the Poet done nothing else than this labour of love, which was executed under so many difficulties, he would have been entitled to the thanks and gratitude of his countrymen. As addressed to Mr. Henley, the assumption is that such a claim can be of no avail—it does not harmonise with his one-eyed method—for, quite oblivious to the time and industry this work must have entailed upon the Poet, Mr. Henley only sees in Burns's last days a story of decadence—the pitiful spectacle of "a man who had drunk his life to the lees." No one will deny for a moment that Burns was at times guilty of aberrations and excesses, but to say "he drank his life to the lees" is untrue. We have not only the marvellous amount of work he achieved even to the end, but we have the testimony of his wife and other credible contemporary witnesses for saying so. In addition to this, Dr. Findlay's recent work, entitled "Burns and his Medical Friends," gives a different complexion to the Poet's last days than that of the misrepresentation which first received its colour from Dr. Currie, has

* See Captain C. Gray, R.M., in No. XIV. of his "Cursory Remarks on Scottish Song."

run the whole gamut of scandal-mongers ever since, and has been doubly darkened by Mr. Henley. Surely Mr. Henley could not have been ignorant of all the facts in this connection; but the inference is, if we are to judge him by his essay, that he is too much of an egotist to sacrifice a pithy phrase for the cause of truth.

In passing from the Dunlop to the Clarinda correspondence we perceive a marked distinction between the two. Just in proportion as the Dunlop correspondence shows the Poet in his best and truest aspect, so perhaps the Clarinda correspondence shows him in his worst and most superficial aspect. In comparatively few of his letters to Clarinda do we see the real Burns—the unique personality which is most familiar to us, and which has compelled us to love the man, as well as his works, in spite of his faults and shortcomings—but a Burns strutting in the guise of a carpet-knight or a troubadour, anxious to impress, but lacking confidence in the real and natural Burns. But even here one only needs to understand the whole circumstances to be prepared to forgive much. At the very outset, it is essential to remember that the women with whom the Poet had been accustomed to associate were for the most part poorly educated and generally unread. Indeed, in his day, the classes above the peasantry did not regard the higher education of women as an absolute necessity; and in the ranks of the peasantry more particularly, the education of women, in any sense worthy of the name of education, did not at all present itself as a pressing need. The legitimate sphere of women among this class was too rigidly limited to the domestic and maternal functions, consequently her education was of the most meagre character, and the extent of her historical reading was supposed to be confined to Moses and the Prophets. It was the sons of the peasantry in those days who were thought to be entitled to the lion's share of education, in order that they might be the better qualified to fight life's battles. By taking these facts into consideration, and turning on the side lights, much is explained which should convince us that great allowance ought to be made for the falsetto key-note Burns struck, and the inflated style he adopted in his letters to Clarinda. When he came to Edinburgh, and made the acquaintance of Mrs. M'Lehose, a woman of superior education, who could write impressive letters, and had the gift of poetry, the rustic Bard

was carried clean off his feet. It was quite a new experience for him. That dream of the more exalted sphere of woman, and her capacity for a more equal companionship with man, was more vividly impressed on his mind than it had ever been on the mind of any peasant before him, and it was realised in Clarinda to the full. Surely this does not support Mr. Henley's imputation that among women "he must still be Jove"—"still stoop from Olympus to the plain."* It was when he for the first time met with a female who more nearly approached his own intellectual eminence that he became exhilarated to an inordinate degree, and expressed himself with unrestrained potency and fire from his Olympian heights. It is needless to say that the relationship which existed between Clarinda and the Poet was of a purely platonic character, though, as usual, Mr. Henley sees it through the carnal eye, and not only insinuates impurity of thought on Burns's part, but darkly hints at impurity of action. By way of excuse for this, he quotes six lines from what he terms "a certain gallant and insinuating little lyric."† No one who is at all conversant with the Clarinda correspondence has ever before had the effrontery to whisper such an imputation, far less proclaim it on the house-top. As to "the gallant and insinuating little lyric," it cannot be regarded otherwise than a poetical recital merely, in no sense historical.

This gross insinuation as to the relationship of the Poet and Clarinda is only equalled a little further on in the essay, when Mr. Henley gives prominence to another piece of scandal, "whether published or not he does not know." In any case, he does not intend it shall remain longer unpublished. He says "that, at Dumfries, the Bard walked openly with harlots," and then he goes on to say, "it is, of course, entirely unauthenticated, and I here refer to it but for the purpose of pointing out that, if it were true, the fact of such familiarities, however horrifying to respectable Dumfries, would sit lightly enough both on Burns the peasant and on Burns the poet, of the 'Jolly Beggars,' etc."‡ If it is not authenticated—and we have Mr. Henley's own word for that—why does he take such a mean and discreditable advantage of it to further besmirch the Poet's character? The most unprincipled

* Essay, p. 247.

† Essay, p. 305.

‡ Essay, p. 316.

collector of slum gossip could not descend to a lower level. Really such methods make one nervously apprehensive as to the unhallowed functions literary criticism will ultimately assume. It is some consolation to know, however, that few critics, with the insight necessary for their craft, would assume for a moment that Burns was so wholly and hopelessly depraved. It was he who wrote—

The sacred love o' weel plac'd love,
Luxuriantly indulge it ;
But never tempt th' illicit rove,
Tho' naething should divulge it.

Burns, it is true, had too large and sympathetic a nature to die of one lost love. The man who can only love once during the course of a long lifetime is like the man who can live on but one idea ; he is intense but narrow, like a sun that radiates only in one direction. The primordial instinct, on which Mr. Henley so freely expatiates, was, in Burns's case, generally kindled into flame by the glamour of love, and in the atmosphere of poetry and romance. If such had not been the case, is it likely that the passion of love in its highest and purest aspects would have so often found expression in his poetry? It would be extremely difficult to quote a single instance of the libertine having risen to the sublime heights of purity Burns has attained when dealing with the human passion of love. Far less reprehensible conduct than Mr. Henley assigns to the Bard did not sit lightly either on Burns the peasant or Burns the poet of the "Jolly Beggars," as has already been indicated. How has Burns, the poet and penitent, spoken of his own erring life? After the lapse of one hundred years, and while the voice of calumny is still clamouring over his ashes, the Bard's Epitaph still presents the justest view of his own life :—

" The poor inhabitant below
Was quick to learn, and wise to know ;
And keenly felt the friendly glow,
And softer flame ;
But thoughtless follies laid him low,
And stain'd his name.

" Reader, attend! Whether thy soul
Soars fancy's flights beyond the pole,
Or darkling grubs this earthly hole
In low pursuit ;
Know prudent, cautious self-control
Is wisdom's root."

To return once more, however, to the Burns of the "Jolly Beggars," keeping in view the while Mr. Henley's inference on the point, what does it reveal? Above all, it reveals Mr. Henley's painful striving for sensational effect, with the view of deceiving the public, and giving his essay the semblance of originality. The boisterous unconventionalism and easy morals of the "Jolly Beggars" have been made a sufficient reason for assigning to its author a corresponding laxity of morals. It needs no effort of the imagination to see at once the futility of such criticism. If the mere fact of Burns having written the "Jolly Beggars" is a sufficient reason for assuming that the ribald freedom in which this "wandering train" are made to indulge is to be taken as the Poet's literal interpretation of what life and conduct should be, then Shakespeare and the whole galaxy of Elizabethan dramatists were the very personification of questionable conduct and bad morals. Why is Burns's treatment in his poem of the "Jolly Beggars" so true, both to nature and to art? Obviously because he not only faithfully delineates the mendicants' habits of life in his own day, but in doing so he completely obliterates his own personality from the whole conception, and for the moment conceives of conduct and morals from the beggar's standpoint, and that alone. What has such a conception to do with Burns's own character and conduct in life? Nothing whatever, except as an evidence of his intellectual greatness. No higher tribute can be paid to Burns's genius than the success with which he has obliterated his own personality from the "Jolly Beggars," and the masterly way in which he has grappled with and conquered the difficulties of construction. Though the "Jolly Beggars" is Mr. Henley's greatest favourite, it does not seem to be on account of the features alluded to, but rather because of its abounding humour and ribald wit. If Mr. Henley had possessed the smallest modicum of self-effacement when writing his Burns essay—a quality which is so suggestively clear in the Poet's treatment of the "Jolly Beggars"—he would have done much more justice both to Burns and to his own reputation as a literary authority and impartial biographer.

Passing in the meantime from Mr. Henley's Burns essay to his article in the *Outlook*, entitled "The Burns Superstition," we still see him, as in his essay, wielding the club of the iconoclast with characteristic vehemence, and inditing in a

tone and temper anything but amiable. "It is no paradox," he says, "but truth absolute, that Burns is and was ever the poet of the uncritical. In no possible sense a mate for Shakespeare, Chaucer, Milton, to name no more, he is yet more popular than they; and, being vastly worse read than any one of them, he has the ear of a far larger, because a far less, discriminating audience."* Though there is just a grain of truth in the statement that Burns is the poet of the uncritical, it is most misleading, for he is also the poet of the supremely critical to-day as he was in his Edinburgh days; and it is a gift the gods have bequeathed to few men of genius to fulfil the double function of administering to the requirements of these two extremes. Burns has not only the merit of delighting the idealist with his flashes of inspiration, but just as frequently he fascinates the man of common-sense, who finds his experience of life expressed by the Poet with an appropriateness and vigour quite beyond his own scope. It is doubtless possible to find examples of men among the English labouring and artisan classes who can not only appreciate, but have mastered the "Canterbury Tales," "Hamlet," or "Paradise Lost," yet to the multitude they have been sealed books; and whether Burns is vastly worse read than any one of these authors is a matter of small moment, so far as the main question is concerned. Whatever else it may show, it certainly does show that some poets, like some stars, radiate in spheres too distant for their light to be of service to the mass of mankind. If reading and scholastic attainments were the sole machinery by which poets are made, surely real poets would more abound, and poetasters become a diminishing quantity. It matters not how learned or well-read, no poet in England is popular in the same sense as Burns is popular in Scotland—none so thoroughly appeals to the masses—and this appears to be what constitutes the gall and bitterness to Mr. Henley. If the Burns admirer has esteemed the poet as the herald of the most superb epoch in the history of Scottish song, when he should simply have thought of him as an "inspired faun," a "goat-footed Pan," piping on his reed archaic notes which had echoed in the grove from time immemorial, Burns is not responsible, and his personality should not be made a target

* *Outlook*, No. 1, Vol. I., p. 6.

for the shafts of malignity in consequence. But Mr. Henley must further reckon with the Burns admirer, seeing he is so inconsistent with himself, having elsewhere described the Poet as "an amazing peasant of genius." To right-minded men generally, and the unbiased everywhere, Burns's popularity should be a matter for gratitude rather than recrimination, for this reason alone, he has ever been a great educational force among his countrymen, and he disseminated enlightened views of intellectual liberty at a transitional period of political and religious thought in Scotland. "Whenever a year is five-and-twenty days begun," says Mr. Henley, "a great mob assembles all over Scotland, to drink whisky and eat haggis and make speeches in the idol's praise." As far as this kind of depreciation is concerned, the countrymen of Burns can afford to "look and laugh at a' that," when they recall the advantages of this Burns worship. It not only administers to our social instincts and strengthens the bonds of brotherhood, but it has been a literary stimulus no nation has cause to be ashamed of. By implication, Mr. Henley assigns the commencement of Burns worship to Carlyle, though Lockhart's "Life of Burns," which was the occasion of Carlyle's famous review, was the sixth narrative of Burns's life in little more than ten years. Before passing from this point, it might be submitted to a still closer examination; and at the very outset it is significant to observe that the Mr. Henley of the Burns essay and the Mr. Henley of the *Outlook* article are strangely inconsistent with each other. Mr. Henley, in the essay, when referring to the publication of the Kilmarnock edition of Burns's poems in 1786, says of it—"Its triumph was not less instant than well deserved. The first issue (six hundred copies strong) was exhausted in a month; 'tis said that not one could be spared for Mossgiel." He immediately proceeds to supplement this statement by the following from Heron, a personal friend of the Poet's, and the first who wrote a narrative of his life:—"Old and young, high and low, grave and gay, learned or ignorant, all were alike delighted, agitated, transported. I was at that time resident in Galloway, contiguous to Ayrshire, and I can well remember how that even the plough-boy and maid-servants would have gladly bestowed the wages which they earned the most hardly, and which they wanted to purchase necessary clothing, if they might but secure

the works of Burns.”* On Mr. Henley’s own showing, then, the Burns worship, as he terms it, anti-dates Carlyle’s essay by more than a generation—Heron’s “Memoir,” from which he quotes, having been published in 1797, a year after the Poet’s death. The merits of Burns as a great poet were not only recognised in Scotland as soon as his poems saw the light, but they were recognised in England at a very early date, and the latter country contributed one, at least, to the host of Burns worshippers twenty years before Carlyle’s review appeared. Robert H. Cromek, an English engraver and publisher of prints, fired with enthusiasm by a perusal of the “Life and Works of Burns,” left his home and family in those old coaching days, started on a tour in Scotland, and visited all the places hallowed by the Poet’s muse, with the view of collecting material for a work on the subject. His tour was followed with a considerable amount of success, and in 1808 he published his volume under the title of “Reliques of Burns.” Mr. Henley, for some reason or other, never once refers to the useful labours of his countryman in the field where he himself has so signally failed. Enough has been said, however, to finally dispose of Mr. Henley’s assertion to the effect that Carlyle is the originator of the Burns worship and “The father of all them that babble in Burns Clubs.” Let us revert to another assertion in this foolish and acrimonious article in the *Outlook*, which should not be passed over in silence. In referring to Carlyle’s estimate of the Poet, Mr. Henley says “he was young, ardent, and jealous ; it is, indeed a peasant’s shout over a peasant.” With a shrug of the shoulders and a wave of the hand our critic here makes the showman’s appeal to the gallery as he struts and gesticulates behind the foot-lights. The true value of such an assertion is usually in inverse ratio to the stock-in-trade of the vendor. Who was better qualified than Carlyle to speak as one having authority on the life, genius, and achievements of Burns? Certainly not Mr. Henley. Carlyle being himself a peasant, and a peasant of genius too, he knew Burns’s environment as no town or city-bred Scot could, leaving out of account the city-bred Englishman. Above and beyond all this, he had that philosophic range of vision requisite to measure Burns’s capacity and work, which Mr. Henley, from the lower world in

* Essay, p. 293.

which nature has doomed him to function, can never know. Later on, in the article in question, Mr. Henley, in referring to Carlyle's review, says:—"Carlyle, however, deep in Goethe and Schiller and Novalis, knew absolutely nothing of that excellent dynasty of vernacular poets which got itself finally expressed in Burns." This is a fair specimen of the double-shuffle Mr. Henley has trusted to for refuge in the whole course of his treatment of the subject of Burns. In the first place, he charges Carlyle with ignorance of the vernacular poets; and when we seek to discover the real basis of the assumption, we find it revealed in the plain fact that Carlyle does not sustain Mr. Henley's views when he accuses Burns of plagiarism, ribaldry, intemperance, and other vices. What authority has our critic for the assumption that Carlyle knew absolutely nothing of the vernacular poets? He supplies none; we venture to say he can supply none; and all the probabilities are against him. Indeed, it is no exaggeration of the case to say that Mr. Henley's assumption could not have been sustained by facts if it had been made against the humblest Scottish peasant, far less Carlyle with his superior learning and keener intellectual vision. It might be claiming too much, certainly, to maintain that the Scottish peasant was acquainted at first hand with the whole dynasty of vernacular poets, from Robert Henryson to Robert Burns, but it was quite an exceptional thing at one time to find a peasant who was unacquainted with the numerous selections of the vernacular poets given in *The Ever Green*, while Allan Ramsay and Robert Fergusson were as familiar as household words to him. Some forty or fifty years ago it was quite a common occurrence for Ramsay's "Gentle Shepherd" to be acted at the social gatherings of the peasantry, all the *dramatis personæ* being represented by the peasants themselves. We might point out here that education has been the hereditary right of the Scottish peasantry since the days of John Knox; nor have they been exclusively indebted to disciplined theology for the development of their critical faculty, but they have been largely indebted to the secular literature embodied in this self-same dynasty of vernacular poets.

Having disposed of this part of the subject, as far as its historical features are concerned, let us return briefly to one of the main points—viz., Burns's plagiarism. As the futility of

that has already been dealt with, little needs to be added, except to say that if Burns was a plagiarist his accuser is more so. Mr. Henley has not only failed to add one single scrap of new information that is true on the subject of Burns, but, in his essay, there is evidence that he has worked over the opinions of Carlyle, R. L. Stevenson, and Matthew Arnold; and he has had the bad taste to sneer at Carlyle and Stevenson, after he has extracted from them what could be utilised for his own advantage. It is ingeniously done, we admit, but still there is evidence that such is the case, though the *Times* reviewer has characterised the essay as "interesting, brilliant, full of original things." Interesting and brilliant it may be, but where are the "original things"? We ask the *Times* reviewer to produce a single original thing in the whole essay that can be sustained by trustworthy evidence. To follow Mr. Henley through the mass of prejudice, scandal, and petty gossip, by which he has tried to trump up a case against one of our famous poets, is profitless and depressing work; to say there are no brilliant passages in the essay, as has been already inferred, would be doing it scant justice; but they can only be compared to sky-rockets—they flash and sparkle for a moment, only to disappear and leave the reader in darkness and perplexity, and the notes tend to make confusion more confounded. If one is to look for sustained good writing or judicial analysis of a case, this essay will be searched in vain. Surely the biographer owes a duty to posterity, as well as to the memory of him of whom he writes; he therefore should be most scrupulous that no statement should escape from him that cannot be verified as a matter not of conjecture but of absolute fact. Has Mr. Henley done this? We think that his warmest partisans will scarce assert that he has. Indeed, it is extremely doubtful whether Mr. Henley is sufficiently free from eccentricities and prejudices to do justice to Scotland and Scotsmen. In the Scotland of Burns's day he only sees a community given over to "fornication and theology." To say the least of it, to be theological in the sense in which the countrymen of Burns were theological, presupposes for one thing a certain critical standard, and is a phase of mental development met with in the history of all civilizations; nor is it void of a moral significance, though Mr. Henley

insinuates that in Scotland immorality and theology went hand in hand. Fine distinctions are not characteristic of the man, and his incapacity for historical deduction is evident. As to the charge of fornication, Scotland was perhaps no worse than her English sister. At anyrate, Mr. Henley will have some difficulty in proving that she was. In the time of Burns, and previous to his day, the Kirk of Scotland was all powerful, and she too frequently exercised that power with unscrupulous rigour. The poet and minstrel, who represented the more popular form of the secular literature of the period, rebelled against the arbitrary power of the Kirk; and, with the view of shocking the "unco guid," they assumed a grossness which did not actually exist—therefore, their rhymed effusions are in no sense a reliable criterion of the true state of morals generally. If Scotland had possessed at the time a faithful recording genius, such as England possessed a little before in the person of Henry Fielding, to correctly reflect the thought and morals of the age, then our critic would have trod on surer ground. There is much truth in what Fielding said of the loftier pretensions of professed historians. "In their productions," he says, "nothing is true but the names and dates, whereas in his histories everything was true but the names and dates." In reading his writings, one feels this is strictly true as applied to them, and no one can read "Joseph Andrews," "Tom Jones," and "Amelia," without being impressed with the extent to which the England of Fielding's day was given to fornication and theology, to which the vice of gambling must be added. "Let him that is without sin cast the first stone" is as applicable to nations as to individuals. The whole tone of the essay is splenetic to a degree that is not complimentary either to the sense or intellect of the writer, and it is to be regretted that it should have accompanied so beautiful an edition of Burns's works as the Centenary Edition undoubtedly is. Mr. Henley has not only gone out of his way to inflict needless pain on Burns's countrymen, but he has violated all the recognised canons of criticism. In saying this much, we are not unmindful that every man has not the far-reaching and generous aspirations necessary to rise to the comprehension of the higher psychological domain of genius. Mr. Henley's native element is, apparently, the morbid side of human life, and perhaps some allowance should be made for the persistency with which he

functions there. Several times in the course of his essay he makes spasmodic efforts to rise to loftier heights, but he signally fails, and why? Because he endeavours to soar with the wings of Icarus, which, as he approaches the great luminary that radiates in the higher heavens, are melted, and he is cast down to earth again. Irritated by his repeated defeats, he vigorously strives in the opposite direction, and does all he can to defame the memory of the dead Poet who has been the subject of misrepresentation and calumny ever since he passed to his rest, and that to an extent which has fallen to the lot of few great men. As we have already said, Mr. Henley is himself a poet, and stands high in the ranks of our minor poets. But though his own muse is far from being pinionless, when compared with that of Burns, notwithstanding the occasional rudeness of the latter's art, it is like the flight of the sparrow that chirps on the garden wall to the soaring flight of the eagle. Amid the crudities and misrepresentations which meet the eye almost on every page of Mr. Henley's essay, there is one consolation, and it is this—to permanently damage the reputation of Burns is beyond the reach of his utmost efforts.

WM. M'ILWRAITH.

ROBERT BURNS,

THE REGENERATOR OF SCOTTISH SONG.

IN ages old, God sent a timely flood
 To cleanse the face of earth, renew its youth,
 Wipe out the stains of crime and spots of blood,
 And introduce an age of richer truth.
 His fire consumes the stubble, hay, and wood;
 The precious stones, the silver and the gold,
 Abide; men's works are tried—the bad and good
 Are parted, and for each its place is told;
 So God sent down His messenger to earth,
 In humble guise of one that farms the field,
 To till the field of song, and give new birth,
 New voice, new life to notes that erst did yield
 True melody. Burns came like flood and fire,
 He sang and purified the temple's quire.

January, 1898.

A MEMBER OF THE STIRLING BURNS CLUB.

ROBERT BURNS.

“ Burns had honour in his lifetime, but his fame has rolled like a snowball since his death, and it rolls on.”—LORD ROSEBURY.

WHY is the name o' Burns sae dear
To ilka Scot baith far an' near?

Why held in sic regard?
In peace he walked ahint the pleugh,
War's wild exploits he never knew—

A simple rustic bard.
Blest only wi' the gift o' sang,
He swept the Doric lyre
In tunefu' numbers loud an' lang
Wi' patriotic fire.

An' clear still we hear still
The strains that never die;
Sweet sounding, resounding,
Despite the years gane by.

Wi' Robin's fau'ts I've nae concern;
He may ha'e been a wayward bairn,
Wi' passions wild an' strong.

His virtues rare I only see,
His flichts o' fancy bold an' free,
Abune the heedless throng,
His glowing heart, sae leal an' kind,
His sympathy sincere,

His manly, independent mind,
His insight keen an' clear,
Sae candid, aff-handed,
Sae witty, blithe, an' free;
Though droll whiles, the soul whiles
O' social harmony.

He clothed his thochts in glowing words,
That thrill an' touch the deepest chords
Within the human breast.

His sweet love-lyrics, ever new,
Sae tunefu', tender, touching, true,
Are justly deemed the best.

He sang o' Mary's witching wiles—
He praised his Bonnie Jean;
A passing lilt bestowing whiles
On some fair rustic queen.

He portrayed the Scotch maid,
Sae bonnie, blithe, an' sweet;
An' shy swains, his love strains,
When wooing, still repeat.

There is a something in his voice,
That gars the lanely heart rejoice,
An' nerves the weary arm;
When storms conflicting rage aroun',
Or waefu' trials press us doon,
We feel the mystic charm.

His sentiments wi' beauty glow,
An' clearly he expressed
The hopes an' aspirations o'
The peasant's loving breast.
His sangs still our hearts thrill,
They comfort an' inspire;
Sae cheering, endearing,
An' tunefu' Robin's lyre.

The "Unco Guid" should whiles reflect,
Before they speak wi' disrespect

O' ane o' Robin's turn :

They err, despite their Bible-lore,
Wha wink at sins they should deplore,
Yet owre mere trifles mourn.

Burns, trusting in a sacred source,

Still owned his failings weak ;

An' whiles the saut tears o' remorse

Cam' trickling down his cheek,

He cried then, he sighed then,

For fortitude an' faith ;

Lamenting, repenting,

An' longing whiles for death.

Oh, may his fame roll like a ba'

Still gath'ring bulk amang the snaw,

For centuries to come.

To guard it weel should be our aim,

Roun' ilka hearth, in ilka hame,

Despite the cant o' some.

To ilka loving Scottish heart

Blythe Robin's sangs are dear ;

An' roun' the warl', frae ilka airt,

His thrilling strains we hear.

We time them, we chime them,

'Mid social mirth an' glee ;

Sae loudly, sae proudly,

Sae merry, blythe, an' free.

Greenock Burns Club.

JOHN MACAULAY.

January, 1898.

— —

"POET'S PRAISE OF BURNS."

"THE Poet's praise"—how can we know

That sum of song, so deep, so vast

That glory on our Bard doth cast,

And with the world doth onward go !

Take all the praise that sweeps along,

And multiply a thousand fold,

His greatness hath not half been told,

That wondrous life, short-lived in song.

In the world's corners faint and dim,

His memory shall never fade ;

While deep and tender thoughts are laid,

While hearts sing, souls rejoice in him.

Sweet silent praise and thanks are given

Like sacrifices from the soil,

Where men and women, earnest, toil,

For "Burns," they give their prayers to Heaven.

et praises sound the world along,

And where immortals gathered are,

Beyond the earth's most radiant star,

They all shall hail him, "King of Song."

All Poets in his songs rejoice

And sing, because the way he taught ;

And in the realms where night is not

They, silent, listen for his voice.

Glasgow Rosebery Burns Club.

H. PATERSON BAYNE.

January, 1898.

THE DUNDEE COPY OF THE FIRST EDITION.

QUITE a national interest has been excited over the record price obtained for a Kilmarnock edition of Burns's Poems at Mr. A. C. Lamb's sale in Edinburgh, on Monday, 7th February, 1898. This volume has long been known to collectors as without a parallel in the world. It is a copy of the first Kilmarnock edition (1786), in the original covers, with the paper uncut, and with several leaves at the end unopened. Mr. Lamb acquired it many years ago, and had it beautifully mounted in a crimson morocco case. It has been exhibited on various occasions; and was one of the chief treasures in the Glasgow Burns Exhibition of 1896. The lot was put up at £50; the second bid was £75; the third was £100; and in a minute or two the offer of £200 was made. By leaps and bounds the price soon reached 300 guineas, at which point Mr. Richardson, Glasgow, and Mr. D. M'Naught, editor of the *Chronicle* were the only Scots competitors left. At 315 guineas Mr. M'Naught retired, and Messrs. Pearson's representative and Mr. Sabin, London, were left alone in the contest. The excitement of the audience grew intense as the two combatants bade against each other, keeping up a rapid running fire at ten guineas a shot. In quick succession the sums rose to 320, 330, 335, and 340 guineas, when one of the gentlemen, as if impatient to end the fight, made an offer of 350 guineas. His opponent replied with a bid of 360 guineas, and once more the contest started, and soon the alternate five-guinea bids had brought up the sum to 400 guineas. Another attempt was made by one of the gentlemen to checkmate his antagonist by a ten-guinea bid; but this only renewed hostilities, and from this point the bidding rose by five-guinea grades until the alarming sum of 500 guineas was offered. At this point the audience burst into a round of applause, and

for a moment it seemed as if the utmost limit had been reached. But Mr. Dowell delayed a little to give breathing-time, and as it was evident that no other person sought to enter the lists he was about to knock down the lot for 500 guineas to Mr. Pearson, when Mr. Sabin started off again with a bid of 510 guineas—a daring move, which was once more greeted with applause. Mr. Pearson replied with an increase of ten guineas (520), which was answered by an additional five guineas (525) from Mr. Sabin. Here the contest seemed likely to end, and Mr. Dowell had pronounced the “last call,” when the running was again taken up by Mr. Pearson with an offer of 530 guineas. Not to be defeated, Mr. Sabin bade 535, and a pause was made by Mr. Pearson, who waited until the hammer had almost descended, and then rushed in with an additional five guineas (540). He had reached his limit, however, and the lot was eventually knocked down to Mr. Sabin for 545 guineas (£572 5s.). Never before in the history of literature has there been a book which originally cost three shillings sold 111 years after its publication for such a vast sum. For some time before the battle was ended the idea had got abroad among the audience that this was an international fight, as it was believed that Mr. Pearson intended to keep the copy in this country, while it was understood that Mr. Sabin was commissioned to purchase for an American collector.

THE HISTORY OF THE VOLUME.

At the institution of the Free Library in Forfar, the promoters were naturally anxious to get as much money as they could to start with. The books of the Mechanics' Institute had been obtained as a nucleus—indeed, the contents of the Library had been given over on condition that the Free Libraries Act should be adopted, and as to its adoption much opposition had been encountered. However, the Act was adopted, and Forfar had the distinction of being amongst the first burghs to do so. When this had been secured, the question of ways and means naturally came up; and as at that time a penny rate yielded only £100, outside aid had to be requisitioned. Mr. A. L. Fenton, one of the most enthusiastic of the promoters, set about procuring subscriptions. A circular was prepared, printed, and sent to townsmen at home who were well affected

to the Library, and also to gentlemen connected with the town, resident at a distance—in Edinburgh, Glasgow, and elsewhere. These efforts resulted in considerable sums being got. Amongst others who were applied to was William Burns, LL.D., a retired teacher, residing in Rochester, whose interest in his native town was deep. Dr. Burns wrote to the late Provost Reid offering to gift a Kilmarnock Edition (1786) of the Poems of Burns to the Free Library, or alternatively its value if sold. The question came before the Library Committee whether they should accept the volume itself or the money value of it, and after consideration it was resolved to ask Dr. Burns to dispose of the volume, and the Committee would accept the money, which was done, and the price it obtained was £6 6s.

It appears that during the present century the book has been in the possession of four persons. It belonged to a Glasgow family called Drummond previous to 1821. About 1850 it was purchased by Dr. Burns. He acquired it among a lot of old volumes sold by an auctioneer after the Drummonds had removed from Glasgow. In July, 1870, the book was purchased by the late Mr. G. B. Simpson, Broughty-Ferry, who sold it to the late Mr. A. C. Lamb in 1879. It has now passed into the possession of the fifth proprietor, Mr. Frank T. Sabin, Shaftesbury Avenue, London.

When the idea occurred to Dr. Burns that he might present the value of the volume to his native burgh, he wrote to Mr. W. D. Latto ("Tammias Bodkin"), editor of the *People's Journal*, asking his advice on the matter. Mr. Latto suggested that, as the gift was for a public object, he would advertise the sale gratis. The following is a copy of the letter Mr. Latto received, and it gives an interesting history of the book:—

"Thursday, Noon, 23rd June, 1870.

My dear Sir,—I have just received your kind letter, and shall send off Burns by the same post as this, registering it to make sure work of its reaching you. For the sake of the Forfar Free Library, I wish you to get as much as you can for it, and I assure you we are all delighted at the prospect of what is to us comparatively valueless being of some service to the Forfarrians. You will readily see that it is the Original Kilmarnock Edition, and that the condition is about as good as when it left the printer's or bookbinder's hands—I perhaps ought to say the *Poet's* hands, for, being published by subscription, he very likely delivered the copies personally, as many other bards have done. I think it had belonged to a family of the name of Drummond, as that name is on a Greek Grammar

that I bought along with it from the same parcel of old books in an auctioneer's office, and there was a family of that name that left there shortly before.

The date with my name in the Grammar is March 15, 1857, and I likely had it some time before, as I had then been lending the book to a pupil, otherwise the name would have had little chance of being put into it. Drummond's name is dated Glasgow, 1821. I tell you these things in case any super-inquisitive purchaser should wish to know its history. I had no intention of asking you to advertise it gratis, and would have felt better pleased had you told me what it would cost; but I guess it will be no use for me to insist on an account, so I shall say 'I sincerely thank you.'—Believe me, yours truly,
W. BURNS."

In accordance with Mr. Latto's suggestion, the book was advertised for sale in the *Dundee Advertiser* of 23rd June, 1870. The following is a copy of the advertisement:—

"A RARE OLD BOOK FOR SALE.—'An Old Forfarian' possesses a copy of the First Edition of Burns's Poetical Works, which he is willing to Sell to the Highest Bidder, the proceeds to be handed over to the Funds of the Forfar Free Library. About a dozen years ago a similar copy was sold by auction in London for £3 10s.—Offers to be addressed 'Burns,' *Advertiser* Office, Dundee."

The following paragraph, which appeared in the *People's Journal* for 9th July, 1870, records the next incident in the story:—

SALE OF THE FIRST KILMARNOCK EDITION (1786) OF BURNS'S POEMS.—About fourteen years ago, a native of Forfar, long resident in England, bought for a mere trifle in an auctioneer's office a copy of the first edition of Burns's Poems. Since then it has occupied a place in his library as a valuable memento of Scotland's national bard; but the people of Forfar having adopted the Public Libraries Act, and being in want of money to purchase such a collection of books as would be creditable to the county town, the gentleman referred to, instead of presenting the prize to the Committee, generously sent it to Dundee, with instructions to sell it to the highest bidder, so that its money value might form his contribution to the fund now being subscribed in aid of the Free Library of Forfar. It is a remarkably perfect copy—so clean that it does not appear to have ever been read, and has the same veritable blue cover in which it issued from the hands of John Wilson, of Kilmarnock, 84 years since. In this latter respect it is probably unique, as the fac-simile copies published by M'Kie, which we have seen, are bound in blue boards, and thus far cannot be said to be exactly similar to the original. Only two bidders appeared, and it was sold on Thursday for £6 6s. to a gentleman interested in such relics. We understand that this is not the highest price which has been given for copies of this edition; but we are sure that Burns, when preparing his modest and unpretending volume for publication, in the hope that its sale would enable him to leave his native land, never expected that it would realise a price so high.

The new purchaser of the Burns was Mr. G. B. Simpson. He was well known as a collector, and probably intended to retain the book which he had secured at what was then a very reasonable price. The sum received was transmitted to the committee of the Forfar Free Library. The following is a copy of the entry in the Minutes of the Committee :—

19 Sept. 1870.—Mr. Reid reported that he had received £6 6s. from Mr. Latto, being price of a copy of Kilmarnock edition of Burns's works given by Dr. Burns for behalf of the Library.

Mr. Simpson kept the Burns for over 8 years. In February, 1879, he offered it, with several other volumes, to Mr. A. C. Lamb. The sum proposed by him for five books was £124.

In apportioning the sum of £124 paid for these five volumes, Mr. Lamb allowed £100 as the cost of the unique copy. Mr. Simpson had placed the book in a very handsome morocco case, which may have cost him £2 2s., so that for the book which had cost £8 8s. he received £100—an increase of £91 12s. This was the identical copy sold in Edinburgh last February for £572 5s.—an advance of £472 5s. upon Mr. Lamb's price.

A brief account of Dr. William Burns, the donor of the unique copy to Forfar, may be of interest. His father, John Burns, belonged to the Glenisla district, and settled in Forfar at the end of last century. He had three sons—William, James, and David. The last-named is still alive in New Zealand. William Burns was born in Forfar in 1804, and he and his brother James were brought up as handloom weavers. They were both of a studious turn, and were self-educated. William was enabled, by dint of severe economy, to matriculate at Aberdeen University, where he specially distinguished himself in mathematics. When he had completed his course he set up as a teacher in Aberdeen, but soon went to Rochester, where he established a private school for training for the Universities, and there he remained for the rest of his life. He received the degree of LL.D. from Aberdeen as a recognition of his ability as a mathematician. He died at Stroud in 1884. His daughter now lives in Birmingham. James Burns, the second son, carried on a school in a building now absorbed in Forfar Academy. Subsequently he had a school in Castle Street, Forfar, and he latterly was Registrar of Births, Deaths, and Marriages in Forfar, where his daughter still resides. The Burns family was well known and highly respected in Forfar.

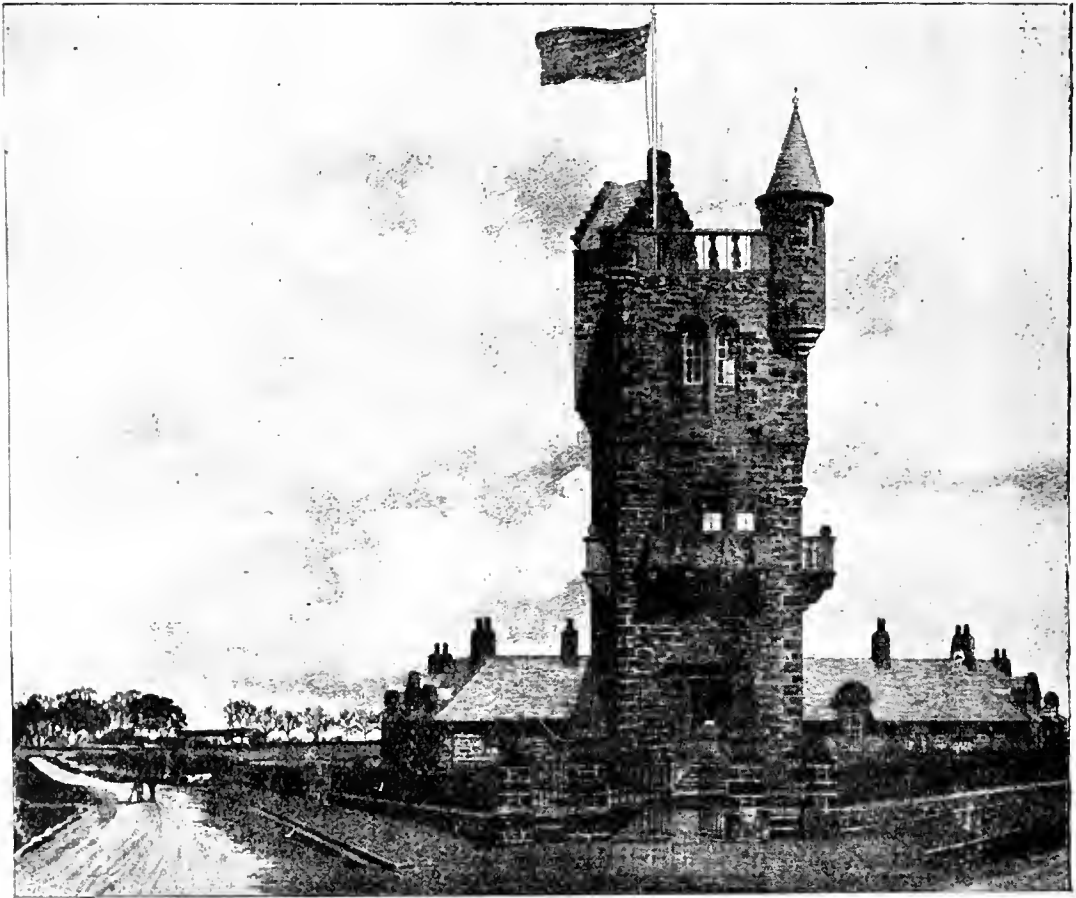
F. H.

NATIONAL BURNS MEMORIAL AT MAUCHLINE.

INAUGURAL CEREMONY.

THE National Burns Memorial and Cottage Homes at Mauchline were inaugurated on Saturday, 7th May, 1898. The credit for the inception of this scheme belongs to the Glasgow-Mauchline Society, the office-bearers of which have worked indefatigably during the past three years to promote the success of the undertaking. The appeals made for subscriptions met with a generous response. The intention was to raise £5000. This sum has not yet been reached, but the total sum collected up to date amounts to £4410, leaving a comparatively small balance still to be raised. The buildings have already been sketched and described in our pages. They are situated near Mossgiel, about half-a-mile from Mauchline, at the junction of the Kilmarnock and Tarbolton roads, and they are designed in the Scottish baronial style of architecture, the red stone having been taken from the famous Ballochmyle quarries. The Tower—a square-built, turreted structure—is 67 feet in height, and is divided into three floors, to be used as a Museum for Burns relics and other articles of interest. From the top a magnificent view of the surrounding country is obtained. The Cottages, which are simple and tasteful in design, consist of two single and three double apartments, and are situated immediately behind the Tower. They have been tenanted since November last, and one of the occupants is the widow of a great-grandson of Burns. The buildings are surrounded by a parapet wall and wrought-iron railing and gates. The architect was Mr. Fraser, Glasgow, and the builders were Messrs. M. Muir & Co., Kilmarnock. It may be remembered that the first sod was cut on 4th July, 1896,

and on the 23rd of the same month, when the centenary of the Poet's death was being celebrated, the foundation-stone was laid with Masonic honours by Mr. Hugh R. Wallace, of Busbie and Cloncaird. The inauguration proceedings began with a procession of Friendly Societies and representatives of Burns Clubs. It was marshalled on Beechgrove Park by Sergt.-Major Giles of the Ayrshire Yeomanry, and marched through Mauchline to the Memorial Homes, headed by the



Mossiel in the distance).

Mauchline Homes.

Newmilns Brass Band. In front of the Memorial a platform was erected. Several hundred persons were admitted to the enclosure by ticket, and about two thousand people witnessed the proceedings from the public roads on both sides. Mr. Marcus Bain, J.P., C.C., of Woodside, president of the Glasgow Mauchline Society, presided, and among those present were:—Mr. J. G. A. Baird, M.P.; Mr. Hugh R. Wallace, of

Busbie and Cloncaird; Mr. J. B. Thorneycroft, of Netherplace; Mr. J. Leiper Gemmill, writer, Glasgow; ex-Bailie Hamilton Marr, Govan; Mr. Thomas Killin, Glasgow; Mr. W. S. M'Millan, writer, Ayr; Mr. James F. Gemmill, Glasgow; Mr. Hugh Alexander, Glasgow; Provost Mackay, Capt. David Sneddon, and Rev. John Craig, B.D., Kilmarnock; Rev. Wilson Baird, Mauchline; Mr. John Paterson, Maryhill; Mr. Wm. Young, R.S.W.; Mr. W. H. Anderson, Belfast; Mr. A. B. Todd, Mr. Wm. Hill, and Mr. D. A. Adamson, Cumnock; Mr. Alex. Longmuir, Irvine; Mr. J. E. Campbell, Paisley; Mr. Goldie, Newmilns; etc., etc. Mr. W. S. M'Millan intimated apologies for absence from Major-General Sir Claud Alexander, of Ballochmyle; Sir William Arrol, M.P.; the Marquis of Bute, Lord Eglinton, Lord Glasgow, Lord Stair, Sir John Gilmour, Sir Thomas Lipton, Sir John Muir, Sir John Stirling-Maxwell, Sir James Thompson, the Hon. T. Cochrane, M.P.; Mr. A. L. Orr-Ewing, M.P.; Mr. Faithfull Begg, M.P.; Bailie John Marr, Govan; Mr. G. A. Ramsay, Greenock; Dr. Smith, Kirkcaldy; Mr. Allan Weir, Wolverhampton; Mr. Matthew Arthur, Mr. James Coates, Mr. R. A. Oswald, Mr. Somervell, Mr. C. G. Shaw, Mr. J. B. Dunlop, Mr. Craibe Angus, Mr. D. M'Naught, Mr. A. M. Brown, Mr. J. Lawrie Coulson, Mr. Charles Howatson, Mr. R. W. Knox, Mr. W. H. Dunlop, and Mrs. Baird, of Cambusdoon. The large gathering sang two verses of the hundredth Psalm, led by a choir in the balcony of the Tower.

Mr. THOMAS KILLIN, Glasgow, hon. treasurer of the scheme, in name of the subscribers, handed over the Memorial to the Glasgow Mauchline Society. In doing so he said—Twenty-three years ago Mr. Andrew Macrorie, of Kilwinning, at a re-union of the natives of Mauchline in Glasgow, said: “Not a street, road, inn, mansion, or cottage in Mauchline bears the name of Burns. In the whole parish there is nothing except one short inscription on a recent building—placed there, Sir, by your late uncle-in-law, Mr. John Gibson, of Dalmenington—to tell the stranger that here shone in its noonday splendour the brightest poetic genius Scotland ever knew.” Fully three years ago the Glasgow Mauchline Society (acting on a suggestion that had been previously made by Bailie John Marr, Govan) set themselves the task of endeavouring to wipe out this reproach. The then officials—Mr. Wm. S. M'Millan, secretary; Mr. J. Leiper Gemmill, vice-president; and myself the president—were appointed a sub-executive to carry out arrangements in connection therewith. Imbued with that spirit of patriotism which Wallace created many centuries ago within sight of this place, and which Burns re-created here

over a century ago—I say imbued with that national fire which burns, or ought to burn, in the breast of every man, causing him to feel and to think his country, the spot where he was born, the place to which he belongs, the best, the very best, in all the earth, we have done our utmost to accomplish our allotted task, and to prove ourselves worthy of the confidence reposed in us. But all this sentiment, this spirit of patriotism, might have been as naught, as “sweetness wasted on the desert air,” but for a generous and sympathetic public—the subscribers. The little town of Mauchline, or a Mauchline Society, I fear, could never have accomplished a work like this, but, with that hub of the universe—Glasgow—attached to it, making it a Glasgow Mauchline Society, we were enabled to work wonders. I am not here just now to thank the subscribers, as I hope to have an opportunity of doing so to-day in another place, but I will say that, though our scheme has been made known wherever the English language is spoken, and we had hoped to get great support furth of Scotland, we have been woefully disappointed. It would be unfair to say we have no donations from abroad, as we have some, and mostly from natives of the district in distant lands. Still, taking the world as a whole, we are forced to confess that, even in this, “east or west, hame’s best.” Besides the sub-committee, we have also a Building Committee—Ex-Bailie Hamilton Marr, Govan; ex-Bailie G. A. Ramsay, Greenock; and Mr. A. G. Alexander, Mauchline—who have done their work well. I am sure Mr. Marr and his associates will be glad their labours are at an end. And now, Sir, it seems to me there is a proper fitness in your being chairman on this occasion. As a County Councillor you have already shown your interest in improving the amenities of the Memorial, and as a Justice of the Peace I know you will guard it well. The stone used in building is from the celebrated Ballochmyle Quarries, of which you are the proprietor. You are the largest employer of labour in the district, at any rate in the parish, and last, but not least, you are almost the largest contributor to the scheme. Altogether, you are a worthy representative of the custodiers of the Memorial. I cannot close without quoting an addendum which Mr. Macrorie had to his reproach. He said—“Some day, I doubt not, this unparalleled neglect will be remedied, and when it is taken in hand it will be well done.” If you, Sir, and the Glasgow Mauchline Society look upon these words now as almost prophetic, we shall be satisfied. Though our task is not yet completed—being still £950 short of the sum aimed at—we hope you will prize well the part that is completed, as we think it is the noblest memorial that has yet been erected to Scotia’s Bard. It is the fruit of much labour, and its success, so far, undoubtedly the result of the application of two Scriptural texts—“Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might,” and “Be of a stout heart, and of a good courage.” I had the distinguished honour, as president of the Society, in being the first to subscribe my name to the subscription list, and now, as treasurer, I have a greater honour, and beg, in name of the subscribers, the sub-Executive, and the Building Committee, to hand over the National Burns Memorial and Cottage Homes, Mauchline, to you, as president of, and for behoof of, the Glasgow Mauchline Society. (Loud applause.)

Mr. MARCUS BAIN then said—In name and on behalf of the Glasgow Mauchline Society, I have the very greatest pleasure in accepting the gift of the National Burns Memorial and Cottage Homes. The trust which has thus been confided to this Society will, I am sure, be ever regarded as of the most important and sacred nature. I feel confident that at all times there will be bestowed upon it that care and attention which it deserves as commemorative of our National Poet, and I am certain that the public of Mauchline and locality, and I trust a much wider public, will do nothing in any way to deface a Memorial so handsome and so worthy of him who now occupies such a warm place in our breasts. But it may be said by many that Robert Burns needs no such Memorial as this, in respect that one hundred years after his death it might be inquired—"Where is the Scotsman whose love and admiration for him are not ardent?" While we cannot conceive of a time which shall ever come when it will really be necessary to erect a monument to him in order to keep green his memory in the affections of the people, there is, I think, something peculiarly significant in this Memorial which has been erected close to and in front of Mossgiel, because here, looking upon the scenes which we now behold, he toiled and sang, and by his songs he has moulded and shaped Scottish character from his own day to ours. There is, I say, something peculiarly significant in this Memorial, which will be handed down to posterity as a record and testimony of that sweetest of Scottish singers—Coila's Bard. I suppose it is part of the national character the desire to possess in some substantial form a memorial or representation of the great and noble men and women of Scotland. Hence I like the name national, and am disposed to think that no greater incentive to patriotism could be found than in honouring the illustrious dead who have done so much in some form of noble work to conduce to the honour of the country. Scotland has never wanted sons eminent in literary or military genius, who by patient self-denial have done good to their fellowmen. I trust, then, that especially the young life of our country, looking upon this Memorial and remembering the genius of Robert Burns, may increase in strength and patriotism, may not only emulate but excel in such virtues those immortals who have gone before, and thus conduce to making our dear old Scotland greater and more beloved. Now, I am sure we are all sensible of the kindness of Mr. Baird, M.P., in coming here to-day to inaugurate this Memorial. Mr. Baird needs no introduction. No gentleman in this county is held in higher esteem. He bears the reputation of being a model landlord and all-round good fellow. As a politician his zeal and attention to his Parliamentary duties are well known. He is, as you are aware, one of the oldest members of the Glasgow Mauchline Society, and is therefore one of ourselves, and he has greatly honoured us in coming here this afternoon. Before desiring you, Mr. Baird, to perform the opening ceremony I have the pleasing duty of handing you, as a memento or souvenir of this interesting occasion, a key wherewith to open the door of the Memorial, and of asking your acceptance thereof.

Mr. J. G. A. BAIRD, M.P., who was received with loud cheers, said—Ladies and gentlemen, allow me, in the first place, to

thank you for the elegant and valuable, but, I may add, somewhat unneeded souvenir of a day which will always be memorable to me. The Rev. William Auld, better known to posterity as Daddy Auld, in the description of this parish which he wrote for the Old Statistical Account of Scotland, among other remarks on the people has the following :—“The inhabitants are of a middle size, from 5 ft. 4 in. to 6 ft. 2 in.,



Mr. J. G. A. Baird, M.P.

and make a decent appearance, particularly at public meetings.” Were the reverend gentleman alive and with us to-day, I do not think that he would see any reason to alter the opinion which he expressed more than a century ago. I need hardly say that I felt highly honoured by being invited to open this Memorial to the king of Scottish poets. I am quite aware

that there are many among those whom I see before me who are better equipped for the task than I, and who may be disposed to be critical, wherefore I ask their kind indulgence, especially as speaking in the open air is not a recreation which I often indulge in, and I avoid it as much as possible. We are met here to-day, ladies and gentlemen, to complete an undertaking which was begun two years ago come July. Mr. Killin has already explained its origin, how it was felt to be a reproach that at Mauchline there was nothing to remind us that here Burns spent some of the most fruitful years of his poetic life. It might be argued that there was no need of anything to remind us. Are not the names of Mauchline and Mossgiel inseparably connected with the name of Burns? Could anything fashioned by the hand of man bind these names closer together? It might even be argued, as you, Sir, have reminded us, that Burns had no need of memorials at all, that all the statues of him and buildings dedicated to his memory are mere superfluities, and that his true memorials are the poems and the songs, written for Scotland, treasured in Scotland, and not in Scotland alone, but all the world over. There are names which need no obelisk or lofty column to perpetuate their memory. Wellington and Nelson, Shakespeare and Milton, Newton and Faraday, Pitt and Peel are a few which readily occur to the mind. We can lay down no rule. We cannot say this man can never be forgotten, there is no need for a monument, or that man must have one, less peradventure his name should perish. We cannot tell what changes may take place in human ideas. I believe that there are people who prefer works like "The Woman Who Did" to "The Bride of Lammermoor." It may be that a generation will arise in the future which prefers Ibsen to Burns. I do not think it probable; I think it as likely that the children of the future will set the chemist above the pastry cook; but posterity are queer folk, and not to be depended on. The name of Burns may be enrolled among those which time cannot wear out of the hearts of a grateful people. If this be so, why, then, this monument? I will tell you. At Alloway, a monument; at Dumfries, a mausoleum; at Ayr, Irvine, and Paisley, effigies in bronze; at Kilmarnock and elsewhere, monuments; at Mauchline, nothing; and had it not been for the Mauchline Society

in Glasgow, nothing to-day. Now, if Burns were to have a monument at all, a solitary memorial, a single witness testifying to this grip upon the hearts of the Scottish people, where should it be? Here at this spot or no other. Here where he lived, laboured, and wrote the poems which made him immortal among the sons of men. Here where, guiding the plough, his eye, his heart, his brain combined to give, through a mouse and a mountain daisy, a fame to the ungrateful soil of Mossgiel which will only perish with his own. Seek where you will, Mauchline is the true Mecca of the pilgrim to the land of Burns. Let us look round and consider. Twelve miles or thereby to the south-west lie Alloway Kirk and village, with the little cottage where, on 25th January, 1759, a blast of wind blew hansel in on Robin. Close by stands Ayr, chief town of Burnsland, with its "twa brigs." Nearer hand the farm of Lochlea and village of Tarbolton, where the Poet spent youthful days, and where his good old father died. Further away, again, to the north-west lies Irvine, where Burns dressed flax for a few months. To the north Kilmarnock, whence issued the book which first made him famous, a single copy of which is now worth its weight in gold. Not very far to the west lie the moorlands, well-known to me, where dwelt honest-hearted auld Lapraik, the king o' hearts. Away to the south sweet Afton flows among the green braes of New Cumnock; and Nith, by whose banks the Poet was wont to seek peace and inspiration after struggling with the riddlings of creation at Ellisland. And then Dumfries, where came to him the twilight of his life, followed by the darkness of death; followed again by the rise of his star in the firmament, where it shines and will shine so long as men delight in poetry and honour poets. Well, ladies and gentlemen, the proposition which started me on my excursion through Burnsland was that if we were dealing with a vacuum, if no memorials existed, Mauchline was the spot where one might most fitly be placed. I trust that I have said enough to justify my opinion. No doubt the assertion may be contested. No fewer than seven cities in Greece contended for the honour attaching to the birthplace of Homer. The case before us is different. The main facts as to life and death are authentic and "downa be disputed," but, from the cottage at Alloway to the mausoleum at Dumfries, the centre of the orbit may, I

think, be placed at Mauchline. Were it needed further to strengthen the claim, it was at Mossgiel yonder where the verses were fashioned which first made, and which still mainly justify, perhaps, the fame of the Poet. It was at Mossgiel, or during the Mossgiel time, when the "Twa Dogs," the opening poem of the Kilmarnock edition, was written; "The Holy Fair;" "Hallowe'en," in which are preserved for posterity the manners and customs of the Scottish peasants on that fateful night; "The Cottar's Saturday Night," which depicts the simple life of long ago; and, strange juxtaposition, "The Jolly Beggars," that rattling piece of what the Poet called rhyming ware; the verses to a Mouse and a Mountain Daisy, to which I have already alluded; and many others which I need not name, except perhaps "The Vision," or at least part of it, where Burns first saw himself

Crowned with the noblest wreath of rhyme—
The holly wreath of Ayrshire's peasant.

Where, then, could be found a more appropriate site for a national Memorial? For let it be remembered that, although the Associations may be local, the Memorial, for reasons which I have attempted to give, is national in so far as here is the focus of interest to all who admire the genius of Robert Burns and visit his country. And Ayrshire attracts visitors from all parts of the world. Wherever the Union Jack floats there you will find Scotsmen, and wherever you find Scotsmen you will discover the cementing influence of the name of Burns. Nor is the love of his poetry confined to Scotsmen. Other people may stumble over the old Scottish words, and it may be confessed that even to Scots a glossary is sometimes a necessary evil; but his genius is recognised by all who can understand him, and by none more than by the citizens of the great Republic across the Atlantic. The audience, indeed, grows larger. The English language is spreading almost with the rapidity of a prairie fire over the face of the globe wherever white men can live. It is the language of the future. English poetry, Scottish poetry, Irish, American, will have an ever-widening circle of votaries. Shakespeare will and must remain king among the poets. After him who shall be the princes? I do not know who the rest may be, but this I feel sure, that the poems and songs of Burns will and must remain one of the

most precious possessions of our race. Even now, next to the National Anthem, "Auld Lang Syne" is better known and more often sung than any other verses in the language. But I need dwell no longer on this subject. Apart from these considerations altogether, we Ayrshire men may be grateful to the Mauchline Society for having placed on this site a tower from which we can obtain a view of our native county which may be equalled but which cannot be surpassed. Standing here, where Burns probably often lingered on his way to a political discussion at Nanse Tinnock's, or on some other errand, we may consider the changes which have come over the face of the countryside within the last century and a half. The natural features of the country are the same, the changes wrought by time in such a period are trifling, but the changes wrought by the hand of man are many. The landscape must in some respects have changed to a degree which we can hardly realise. The sea was there, the hills and undulations of the ground; grass grew and water ran. But the woods and plantations which now please the eye and charm the prospect were not there, if we are to believe records which we possess. Trees in Burns's time there certainly were, but scanty, and for the most part marking the position of the mansion and the homestead, or clothing the sides of the river glens, where Nature placed them in past ages. Moreover, the cultivation of the soil was imperfect, and the surface of the land must have presented a very different appearance to what it does now. The fact is that the dawn of agriculture as we now know it was only just beginning. And the Mossiel of to-day is, I cannot doubt, as unlike the Mossiel of Burns's time as these cottages here differ in appearance and comfort from the auld clay biggin' at Alloway. And that suggests to me that in one respect this Memorial to Burns differs from all others with which I am acquainted. This is the first attempt, so far as I know, to connect the memory of the Poet with that burden which he had to bear all his life in a greater or less degree, and which called forth the sympathy with the poor expressed in many of his verses. Poverty was his companion through life. Ill fitted in temperament to endure it, he fretted at times almost to madness, and I doubt not that agitation of mind led him into company and distraction, from which a more stoical nature would have preserved him, though what he would have gained might have been our loss, for we

might have lost our poet. It was a happy thought of the Mauchline Society to include some provision for the aged poor in their plan for honouring the memory of Robert Burns, and I wish all success to Mr. Killin, the treasurer. (Applause.) Well, ladies and gentlemen, I have come to the end of my task. Here is the Monument, built of stone which has lain under the soil for ages, cut and raised from the quarry by the hand of man; let us hope that it may be as enduring in its new position as it was in the bed where it was first laid down. (Loud applause.)

Mr. BAIRD then opened the door of the Tower, and the platform party inspected the interior, and signed their names in the visitors' book.

The weather up till this time had been bright and favourable, but a heavy shower of rain came on rather suddenly; and after the choir, accompanied by the band, had given an effective rendering of "Scots wha Ha'e" and "John Anderson my Jo," the proceedings terminated.

THE DINNER.

MR. BAIRD ON HENLEY.

A DINNER, in connection with the opening ceremony, was held in "Poosie Nansie's" (Jolly Beggars' Howf)—Mr. Marcus Bain, J.P., C.C., in the chair, Messrs. W. S. M'Millan and Hamilton Marr, croupiers.

Among those present were representatives from the following Burns clubs—Belfast, Leigh, near Manchester; Glasgow St. Rollox, Paisley, Irvine, Jolly Beggars, Cumnock, Winsome Willie, Cumnock; Maryhill, Glasgow Haggis, Glasgow Co-operative, Tarbolton, Kilmarnock, etc., etc. A letter was received and read from Sunderland Burns Club wishing success to the scheme. A telegram was received from Dr. John Smith, Kirkcaldy, intimating a second donation, and Mr. George Anderson, London, also intimated a second donation.

Rev. WILSON BAIRD said Burns's Selkirk grace.

The CHAIRMAN, in a few well-chosen words, then gave "The Queen and Members of the Royal Family," which was responded to with enthusiasm.

Mr. W. S. M'MILLAN proposed "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces."

Captain SNEDDON replied.

Mr. H. R. WALLACE, of Cloncaird, gave "The Houses of Parliament" in a few well-chosen remarks, saying he was glad to have the pleasure of coupling Mr. J. G. A. Baird's name with the toast. It was well known Mr. Baird had never made a political enemy, and he hoped he would be long able to serve his country politically either in the one House or the other, whichever one it might be.

Mr. BAIRD replied, and proposed the "Immortal Memory." In doing so he said—When, in addition to opening the Memorial this afternoon, I was invited to propose "The Immortal Memory" at the banquet, I confess that I felt some trepidation. I felt that I was not asked to place Ossa on Pelion, but first to place Pelion in position, and then pile Ossa on the top of him; but fortifying myself with the ancient saw that if I were to be hanged—you know the rest—I accepted the invitation, and am here to endeavour to perform the task. The difficulty of saying anything new on the subject is quite apparent. Everything that could be said has been said over and over again many times better than I can hope to say it. Those indeed who desire to know their Burns may obtain satisfactory information and guidance from Carlyle's essay, and the admirable speech delivered by Lord Rosebery in Glasgow two years ago. There has, however, been published an essay which has aroused much indignation among Scotsmen, so much so that one reverend gentleman has been so carried away by his feelings as to utter sentiments which I can hardly reconcile with the principles of Christian forgiveness which he no doubt inculcates from the pulpit, and this perhaps is the more remarkable when we consider how Burns treated his clerical predecessors. This at all events is evident, that he has forgiven Burns, if he cannot extend the same measure to his latest critic. Now, gentlemen, I wish to get rid of this subject at once, and henceforward hold my peace. 'Tis a disagreeable one to deal with at the best. Mr. Henley, for of course I refer to him, has thought fit at this time of the day to drag into daylight every episode in the life of Burns which can in his judgment make him what he describes, in language which seems to have been chosen in order to inflict

pain upon admirers of the Poet, whom, by the way, he sneers at in the most superior way. As regards these latter I need say nothing except to advise them to seek comfort, if they need any, in the essay and speech aforesaid. But why this *post mortem* examination? We knew as much about the life before as we wanted. We knew that Burns was no saint. He knew it himself. Little was concealed. He was no hypocrite. He wrote and did things which are to be regretted, and cannot, in my view, be excused, but it must be remembered that he lived and wrote many years ago, and though lapse of time does not make wrong right, yet it should make us slow to deliver judgment based on the facts but without the attendant circumstances and environments from which we are separated by more than a century. Well, gentlemen, I have read this essay more than once to try and read out of Henley what he wishes us to read into Burns, but I have failed. I have refreshed myself with Allan Cunningham, I have read Lockhart, Carlyle, and Lord Rosebery, and I am going to give you an extract from the end of Carlyle's essay which I think expresses better than anything else the true view to take. I will not quote the whole passage; it is too long, but here is the conclusion, which contains the gist. Carlyle was speaking of the injustice of the world in its judgments of such men. "Granted," he says, "the ship comes into the harbour with shrouds and tackle damaged; the pilot is blameworthy; he has not been all wise and all powerful; but to know how blameworthy, tell us first whether his voyage has been round the globe or only to Ramsgate and the Isle of Dogs." As to Mr. Henley's remarks upon the morals of the Scottish peasantry of the time, I ask what is the evidence upon which he bases his conclusions? Mankind sinned then as it sins now, but we do not base our estimate of the Scottish people of to-day upon the proceedings in the High Court of Justiciary. In concluding this matter, and let me say here that in my judgment the Centenary Edition, with the exception of the passages to which I have referred, is in other respects most excellent and valuable, and the essay shows an appreciation of Burns's genius and achievement which makes one regret all the more that it has been so disfigured. What I was going to say was this—What would Burns himself have said or written about this attack upon himself and his people? It is on record that, such

was the terror he inspired, he once stopped two wild young fellows from fighting at a penny wedding by threatening to “hing them up like potato bogles in sang to-morrow.” He had a sharp pen as well as a rough side to his tongue. For my part I wish to hear no more of the follies and frailties of Burns, and I trust that this inquisition will be the last. And now let us pass from that to a more agreeable topic—the work and genius of the Poet. Let me say that I am not “daft” about Burns on the one hand, nor on the other do I profess to be a critic. Like most I have my likes and dislikes. Burns, like most artists, was unequal. Take a collection of the life works of any painter. You will find pictures which you would like to possess, and others which you would only hang because of the hand which limned them. One would like to have an edition of the poems and songs selected by the Poet himself. Which would he cut out and which retain? There is a field for conjecture. One thing is certain—neither he nor any editor, critical or otherwise, could cut out of the hearts and memories of the Scottish people the verses and lines which are there treasured. Take for instance—

“The rank is but the guinea stamp,
The man’s the gowd for a’ that.”

The idea here conveyed might now be considered trite and commonplace, the truth being universally conceded, but the expression is so short, yet so complete, that it resembles the gold which we use to convey the value of many copper coins. Therein is manifest the true Scot, who, with the exception of politicians and other windbags, ever desires to convey his ideas in as short and compact a form as he can. And therefore these two lines have become one of those brevities which save us the trouble of thought and expression. Here is another—

“The best laid schemes o’ mice and men
Gang aft agley”;

and another—

“O wad some power the giftie gi’e us
To see oorselves as ithers see us.”

But these are mere examples of a facility of form and language for which posterity shows its gratitude, as it does for any blessed invention, in the best possible way—by constant use.

I wonder how many who flavour their speech with lines and verses quoted from the poems and songs could give the context. And yet the pearl may owe much of its brilliancy to the diamonds which surround it. Take a gem out of its setting, it remains a gem still, but it lacks that which lent it light and colour. So, in order to fully appreciate the gems of Burns, or for that matter of any other poet, one must turn to the setting of the poems and the songs, the first worked by genius, the second by genius and industry, both inspired by love of his art. Hard to separate, yet we have been told that it was done, and that by two of our greatest poets—Tennyson and Wordsworth. Aubrey de Vere says of Tennyson, speaking with admiration of other poets—"Not less ardent was his enthusiasm for Burns." "Read the exquisite songs of Burns," he exclaimed; "in shape, each of them has the perfection of the pearl—in light, the radiance of the dewdrop. You forget for its sake those stupid things, his serious pieces." Aubrey de Vere goes on—"The same day I met Wordsworth, and named Burns to him. Wordsworth praised him even more vehemently than Tennyson had done, as the great genius who had brought poetry back to nature," but ended, "Of course, I refer to his serious efforts, such as the 'Cottar's Saturday Night.' Those foolish little amatory songs of his one has to forget." Fancy forgetting the songs of Burns; but if Tennyson and Wordsworth could take such opposite views, what is to become of the ordinary mortal? If I were asked, Which will you keep and which resign, poems or songs? I should find it hard to answer. Happily there is no need. We have them all to pick and choose, and as Burns was a man of many moods—serious, gay, sentimental, fierce, mournful by times—so we may select according to the need of the moment. He was poor, and his poverty sometimes aroused a bitterness, manifest in certain poems, but at other moments philosophy came to the rescue, and he comforted himself by reflections which doubtless have found an echo in the hearts of those who have felt his misfortunes sting. He was proud, and chafed at inequalities in station; but though poverty and pride sometimes gave a sharp point to his pen, the mind directing it thought out and wrought out in verse the balancing wisdom which is shown in the epistle to Davie, and "Is there for honest poverty." Then there are the Bacchanalian and amatory

elements which might be expected, and which are, a stumbling-block to some honest folks. Opinions may differ as to whether the Poet should have exercised a stricter censorship over what he published, but no one who condemns the sentiment can deny the merit of the verse. What is printed is printed, and Burns must stand or fall with his poetry as a whole, and not upon part of it. Burns was intensely patriotic—Scotland first in his affections; but his patriotism was by no means bounded by the Tweed. He was democratic, and that side of his character perhaps forms the bond between him and the great nation across the ocean. In truth, he was a strong mortal, a marvellous compound, a phenomenon of a man, a born poet if ever there was one. 'Tis idle to speculate on what he might have been had his birth been postponed for a century. Perhaps a prosperous farmer, with flocks and herds galore, taking prizes at the shows, and standing by the plate at the church door, with no time for poetry. One cannot conceive it. Living when he did, he was moulded by an environment acting on a nature in some respects weak. Of his times he has left us living pictures. Through his verse he brings us closer to our forefathers, closer to a Scotland differing much from ours, closer to a people who, with all their faults, had the true Scottish nature and character, which still show themselves in storms and stress as in peace, helping to win, helping to make, helping to keep, an Empire. Scotland was then poor, but reared men. A constant struggle with nature, industry ever face to face with adversity, a hard and stern theology, brought out a type of character which found its natural expression in the fathers of Burns and Carlyle. I say those men were typical of the class and time to which they belonged. I do not say that their characters were perfect or universal, but I believe that they were common. Imperfect, they nevertheless, in my humble opinion, form one of the best foundations on which to build and maintain a nation. Such was the character which Burns inherited, but nature added strong passions and a fiery genius, which made the poet but overthrew the man. Napoleon, a man of different nature—cold, passionless—was driven on by ambition, an ambition which in the end destroyed him. Had Napoleon been born without ambition, he might have remained a good artillery officer, possibly a successful general—nothing more. Had not Burns been endowed with strong passions, he

might have made an excellent ploughman, a prosperous farmer, or perhaps a factor like his brother. In Burns, fortunately perhaps for him, certainly for us, passion and genius were accompanied by a strong and vigorous vein of humour. Humour broad, pungent, not always refined, but laughter-moving. We have it in his poems. We might have found it in his conversation, had a Boswell been there to report. Robertson, the historian, says that his conversation surpassed his poetry and prose. That it was not always serious we may be certain. The man who wrote the "Jolly Beggars," as well as "Man was made to Mourn," could see the lights as well as the shades of human life. For one thing at least we may be grateful. He wrote for the most part in the language of the country. Now, Daddy Auld says, "The Scots dialect is the language spoken, but it is gradually improving and approaching nearly to the English." How shocking! Gradually improving and approaching nearly to the English. This was the language of Burns; possibly not appreciated by Mr. Auld; appreciated by us nevertheless, and understood of the people. How far this improvement has gone, I know not. Many, no doubt, of the old Scots words have gone out of common use, but Burns has preserved them for posterity. Had he written entirely in English he might have had a larger audience, but his poetry would have lacked the vigour which gives it much of its charm. But he did more, infinitely more. Much of the old Scottish minstrelsy was dead or dying. Fragments of some old songs existed, others were unsuited to the modern ear. There were tunes without words. Burns took them in hand. It was a labour of love. With untiring industry, aided by his genius, he constructed a body of song which stands unsurpassed. Tennyson says—"Burns did for the old songs of Scotland almost what Shakespeare had done for the English drama that preceded him." Then there were his own. Such as "O' a' the Airts," and "Sweet Afton," and above all the one which is known all over the world, "Auld Lang Syne." Whenever I hear it now it minds me of the time, now twenty years ago, when I was a soldier at Aldershot. Troops were leaving for South Africa, and each regiment was played out of camp to that tune. It sounded melancholy then as it does under any similar circumstances. We hear it now perhaps more frequently on festive occasions, but wherever and whenever it

is sung, it bears witness to the fact that Burns realised his wish to do something for *puir auld Scotland's* sake, to make a song at least. The songs alone would have placed him on a pinnacle of fame. Well, gentlemen, I have said my say upon Robert Burns, man and poet. Whether it was worth saying is another matter. I must now make an end. The "Memory of Burns," which we are about to drink, is a very living memory, but nowhere can it live longer or remain greener than here in Mauchline so closely associated with his life and work. (Prolonged applause.)

Provost MACKAY gave "The Glasgow Mauchline Society." He said it was a remarkable thing that the hope of a former chairman of a Mauchline reunion in Glasgow had that day been realised in the Memorial the Glasgow Mauchline Society had been enabled to erect. He understood one of the features of the Society was to help young men, natives of Mauchline, coming to Glasgow, and this new movement to help a few old folks was a similar one, only varying in character. Though they were still £950 short of the sum they aimed at, he hoped it would be completed ere long.

Mr. J. LEIPER GEMMILL, in acknowledging the toast, said—On behalf of the Glasgow Mauchline Society, I have to thank you all very warmly. Provost Mackay has asked as to the origin of the Society, and I may say it is just eleven years since the desire to form such a society became a settled purpose in my mind. I made inquiries as to similar societies, and after getting the co-operation of other friends hailing from Mauchline, a *conversazione* was held, and the society formally inaugurated. Sanguine as I was in taking the initial steps towards founding the society, I did not dare to hope that it would ever attain to its present success; but great as that success has been, I dare not prophesy that in the coming years—if not in our days, then in our childrens'—the cottages forming the homes will be doubled—aye, trebled—and that the Memorial will become one of the greatest benevolent institutions in the county of Ayr. And now let me hope that, while we have been able to build the Tower, our friends from far and near will assist us in filling it with fitting relics of Burns and the district. Now that a suitable building has been erected, I trust that our friends, especially from Kilmarnock, will, if at all possible, see their way to give us back some of the Burns relics that originally came from the Mauchline district, and which in a sense belong to us. As to the Cottage Homes—and these have always seemed to me to be by far the most important branch of the scheme—I most earnestly trust that at no distant date the endowment fund will be completed, and that we will be enabled to give the inmates something more than the mere shelter of a roof tree. Few incidents connected with the movement have given me greater pleasure than last November, when the tenants got entry, going round the houses in my official capacity, and along with my wife welcoming the cottagers, and wishing them God-speed. It was delightful to see

their pleased, grateful faces, and the “wee bit ingles blinkin’ bonilie,” and it is something for our society to have helped—

“On the wan cheek of sorrow to waken a smile,
And illumine the eye that was dim with a tear.”

And now, Mr. Chairman, if you will permit me for a minute or two a digression from the programme, you will enable me to fulfil one of the most pleasing duties that it has ever been my lot to discharge. In connection with the erection of this Memorial there is one gentleman who has ungrudgingly given all his spare time, energy, and enthusiasm towards the movement, and much of its success is owing to his labours. I refer to our honorary treasurer and friend, Mr. Thomas Killin. Some of us who know how much he has done, felt that the opening of the Tower should not be allowed to pass without some recognition of his work, and though it was only on Monday last we took active steps, the response has been so generous and spontaneous that we are now able to present him with this very beautiful drawing-room clock and ornaments, together with a handsome gold watch for Mrs. Killin. It is fitting that Mrs. Killin should be thus remembered, as we owe much to her and the family, and in handing it to her, Sir, you may tell her from us that while it is the best money can buy it is not good enough for her; and may I, on behalf of the subscribers, express the hope that you and she may be long spared to each other, and, in the long after-time, as your children look on these ornaments, they will, I am sure, feel proud of your work and proud of their father. The inscription bears:—“Presented to Mr. Thomas Killin, in recognition of his many services in connection with the National Burns Memorial and Cottage Homes, Mauchline. 7th May, 1898.”

Mr. THOMAS KILLIN, in thanking the directors and friends for their kind gifts, said he never felt anything so much in his life as the gift of these presents. He had often heard of such a thing, but never experienced it before. Till the present moment he had not known anything of this presentation, and he hoped they would pardon him for not being able to say more at present than repeat what he had heard others say, that he thanked them all, in name of Mrs. Killin and himself, from the very bottom of his heart.

Mr. KILLIN then gave “The Subscribers.” He said—Although I asked specially to be put down for this toast, I must confess when I began yesterday to think of how I would propose it I was in an entire quandary. It seemed to me had it been the non-subscribers I had to propose I might have had something to say about them. I could have told how one gentleman wrote me, in reply to an appeal—“Dear Mr. Killin, I had your note this morning about a memorial to a Mr. Burns, who it would seem has been about Mauchline for some time. As he must have left before I was there I did not know the gentleman at all.” I could also have told you of an M.P. who, while sympathising strongly with the scheme, said he was in the same position as Burns, poor fellow—

“Doomed to the hardest task of man alive,
To make three guineas do the work of five.”

I am glad to state, however, that that gentleman has now sent a donation. Another M.P. also drifted into rhyme, and when writing me—"leeve, auld horse, an' ye'll get corn"—said, "when fortune's favours fa' anew" we would hear from him. Well, I regret he has not been fortunate yet. But my toast is "Subscribers." Well, Mr. Chairman, on looking at this subscription list, I feel in the same position as the saintly man was in his dream. On his humble couch one night, while sleeping the sleep of the just, he dreamt he had crossed "that bourne from whence no traveller returns" and was in Paradise, and what surprised him greatly was to see so many individuals whom he knew, but never expected to see there, while a great many of his friends whom he thought on the straight road to that place were conspicuous by their absence. But my position is not a dream, but a reality. It would be invidious to name, but many of you here will miss the names of celebrated clubs in London, Edinburgh, and elsewhere, as well as of many celebrated Burns men. I don't wish to be too critical here, however, as every one knows his own business best, and perhaps the many charitable and other schemes which have been before the public for the last three years may be the cause of this. But when we come to the subscribers, how our heart warms. From the day our hon. president, Sir Claud Alexander, Bart., gave us the first grand lift, even till now, nearly every subscriber has expressed his sympathy for the scheme. Just now I cannot refrain from mentioning an interview I had with the late Mr. Thomas Anderson, who left £1000 to our scheme, shortly before his death. "An' ye come frae Mauchline," he said. On replying in the affirmative, he said—"Man, I ha'e slept in the howf, and I am gaun to le'e a' my property to the Mauchline Burns Memorial!" I may here say that I am delighted to have to couple the name of Mr. Hugh Alexander with this toast, as whatever merit there may be in the charitable part of the scheme, it was he who suggested it. "Mak' it hames for the auld folk," said he, "an' I'll gie ye £50 mysel'." I may also say that during my thousands of calls on people in Glasgow, Paisley, Port-Glasgow, Greenock, etc., during my holidays, and at other times, I have met (except on only some two or three occasions) with the utmost courtesy—one well-known gentleman in Paisley actually thanking me for taking the trouble to call on him and give him the opportunity of subscribing to the scheme; and let me just now add this note that from the medical faculty (although not perhaps subscribing as large sums as some of the other professions) I cannot speak too highly of the praise they had for our scheme. It was but natural, seeing we are a Glasgow Mauchline Society, that the bulk, or a great deal of the money should come from Glasgow. Directly or indirectly, Glasgow has contributed £1,200; Paisley, £150; London, £50; 55 Burns clubs have contributed £320; Ayrshire, £700. We had donations from the Scottish nobility, from the Duke of Hamilton downwards, to the tune of £90. Knights and Baronets, £330. All the great families engaged in the thread, iron, chemical, and other industries, also stockbrokers and ironbrokers, are well represented. Although we have £80 from abroad, I regret to say that only one American has contributed £1 to the scheme. 900 subscribers in all, but with clubs, etc., the fund comes up to several thousands. Although led to

believe that America might do great things, and a great many pounds have been spent in postages and stationery there, still the result is as I have mentioned. Other Memorials are being proposed for certain celebrated individuals who have lived in Scotland, and it may perhaps be useful to them, and to others probably, who may think of raising some other memorial to Burns elsewhere, to know a little of the wiles that have been used by us to extract money from people towards our scheme. Not to speak of over 5000 calls that one person has made during a period of fully three years, he has written some 5,200 letters, sent out over 10,000 circular letters, and 40,000 circulars, the postage alone being over £40. When you add to this the labours of some others, it will give you a sort of idea of how subscribers have been got for the scheme. And now, gentlemen, I think I have said enough. To some of you my remarks may seem egotistical. If so I apologise. There is just one remark I would like to make before sitting down, and that is, as the treasurer in raising funds for this scheme, by none have I been better assisted than by Messrs. J. Leiper Gemmell and W. S. M'Millan. Others have done much, but these deserve to be named especially, and I would also like to take this public opportunity of thanking, in name of the executive, those many friends, who, besides subscribing themselves (and some who were unable to subscribe) have sent in names of parties, and information which has led to further donations being obtained. To the names of subscribers comes to be added the donors of the site of the Memorial, Major-General Sir Claud Alexander, Bart., of Ballochmyle, Mr. W. H. Campbell, of Netherplace, and the Ayrshire County Council. A host of others have also given donations in kind, etc., and a few have promised annual subscriptions whom it would take too long to name, but to all I have to tender the thanks of the Executive. The sentiment I have to propose then, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, is "The Subscribers and Donors," coupled with the name of Mr. Hugh Alexander, Eastfield, Rutherglen.

Mr. HUGH ALEXANDER said—Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—While I desire to thank Mr. Killin for the kind and all too flattering way in which he has proposed this toast, I am somewhat at a loss to know why it should have been put upon the list at all. I take it that all here are subscribers to the fund, and that being so we seem to be in the frame of mind the old Ayrshire farmer was in who wished the Lord to send him "a guid conceit o' himsel'," and have been drinking to our noble selves, or it may be that this is the latest trick on the part of our able treasurer to discover another victim. I was very pleased to hear Mr. Baird, and also my friend, Provost Mackay, in their able speeches commend the form our Memorial has taken. None of us can avoid being struck with the fact that Burns was above everything a pessimist. Although he had his fitful moments of gaiety, he never ceased to be afraid of "age and want, that ill-matched pair." I do not think this pessimism is altogether to be regretted. It was this feeling, as he looked upon the struggles of the labouring poor, that prompted him to exclaim indignantly—"It's hardly in a body's power to keep at times frae being sour to see how things are shared," and I believe that these poetic outbursts of discontent have had an influence in the spread of true democracy that can never be adequately

appreciated. Personally, I am not particularly anxious that monuments to Burns should be multiplied. He needs no "storied urn nor animated bust" to keep his memory green amongst us; but I think it eminently fitting, if a Memorial was to be erected at Mauchline, it should take the form it has taken, and that we should honour his memory by practising the spirit of brotherhood which he taught. It may be thought that in a beautiful country village like Mauchline, where everything looks peaceful and prosperous, there was little need for cottages and pensions; but, while I am young enough, Mr. Chairman, to hope to see many helped in these cottages, I was old enough even in my youth to see the closing years of many lives at Mauchline—lives that, after their half-century of constant toil, ought to have been ministered to with kindness and with tender care, rendered almost unbearable by the constant dread of what Burns describes as "poortith." It was for these reasons, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, that I became a subscriber, and I believe that it was feelings exactly similar that prompted the great body of subscribers, in whose name I again thank you for the toast you have so heartily responded to. And now I have another duty to perform. I have to ask you to accord to Mr. Baird your warmest thanks for coming here to-day to open the monument. It has never been a far cry from Muirkirk to Mauchline, and your committee have been exceedingly happy in their choice. The bonds of sympathy between the two parishes were forged by Burns and "honest hearted, auld Lapraik" in the year 1785, and their rivets are being rung again to-day. The critics tell us that Lapraik was no poet, that his poor verses scarce reached mediocrity. Perhaps the critics will tell us that Mr. Baird's speech to-day, like Lapraik's poetry, has no real merit. They probably would prefer that he should approach his subject knife in hand as a doctor would the dissecting table; but, gentlemen, what value would either speech or poem have that reached the head of the keenly critical but failed to find any response in the hearts of the people. We have listened to Mr. Baird's speeches to-day, and while they have been masterly as literary productions, and proofs of a thorough knowledge of his subject, they have been above all full of human sympathy and tenderness for the memory of the Bard. He has seen in Burns what we see, a man with all a man's frailties, a great, good man withal. If our distinguished guest had been capable of treating Burns in a callously keen and critical manner he would not have been what we esteem him, and you should have had to find some one else to thank him. But instead, we find him the very ideal Burns had in his mind when he said "the friendly, social, honest man, whate'er he be, 'tis he fulfils great nature's plan, and none but he." I ask you now to drink to the health, not merely of the popular member for the Second City, but to this "odd, kind chiel frae 'bout Muirkirk."

Mr. WM. SMITH gave "The Chairman" in his usual happy manner, and Mr. BAIN briefly replied. Mr. J. W. FRASER gave "The Croupiers."

Songs were sung during the evening by Mr. J. Richardson, Glasgow, and Mr. Hugh Alexander, and an enjoyable afternoon was brought to a close by the company singing "Auld Lang Syne."

A grand Burns Concert was given in the Temperance Hall in the evening—Mr. William Smith, box manufacturer, Mauchline, in the chair.

AN EPISODE OF THE INAUGURATION.

IN connection with the arrangements at the Inauguration Ceremony, the following appeared in the *Ardrossan and Saltcoats Herald* of 13th May, 1898:—Probably the first instance of a press boycott on an extensive scale occurred at Mauchline in connection with the opening of the Burns Memorial Cottage Homes. The proceedings out of doors were followed by a banquet in Poosie Nansie's, to which the press received a fiddler's bidding, and, on arriving, found worse than no provision made. Something like a dozen members of the fourth estate put in an appearance, and looked at the window which they were expected to clamber through and seat themselves in a room adjoining that in which the banqueters were seated. The pressmen would not have it. They went and dined elsewhere, and the orators at the banquet did not speak to our readers, nor to the readers of any other paper on the face of the globe.

A fortnight afterwards, a humorous rhymers tuned his lyre in the columns of the *Ayr Observer* in the following entertaining style:—

THE MAUCHLINE MUDDLE.

YE Mauchline folks, attention pay !
 All eyes are looking now your way,
 Since opening the other day
 The brand new Tower—
 A function which, the papers say,
 Made some folks sour.

Your Glasgow "buddies" (bless their hearts !)
 Should shine in graces and in parts ;
 Masters are they of all the arts,
 Save that to please ;
 The "Fourth Estate" keen felt their darts,
 And raised a breeze.

And Burns Clubs, too, with one consent,
 Their measley treatment did resent—
 Although, perhaps, they never meant
 To be unkind ;
 But, ah ! the "buddies"—well, it's kent
 They're nearly blind.

'Twas "manhood" Burns extolled so well—
 'Tis "manhood" poets' themes still swell—
 'Twas "brotherhood" he loved to tell
 The world would win ;
 But near Mossiel he who would dwell
 Must low crawl in.

Oh, K——n ! K——n ! mend your ways,
 If you'd have happy nights and days !
 You'll have the Burns folks in a blaze—
 You are so "class !"
 You have not caught the true Burns craze !—
 But let that pass.
 Apologies may come too late ;
 The "manhood" of the "Fourth Estate"
 Is, after all, not quite ingrate
 For favours small ;
 But why should it at any date
 Be pushed to wall ?

This provoked an "irregular ode" which appeared in the *Cummock Express* of 27th May, 1898, and from which we cull the following :—

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But a' the seats were trysted fair,
 Nae room there was for ony mair ;
 Reporter chaps be't to be there,
 Sae anxious is the world for lear,
 An' latest news ;
 Sae swift a hay-laft they prepare,
 Nor made excuse.

The committee forbye agreed
 To mak' provision for their "feed";
 And gie them a' that they might need
 O' meat an' drink, frae which when freed,
 In a wee nook,
 They then could gang and hear the screed,
 An' fill their book.

But when they saw that their plum-duff
 Was laid out in a garret rough,
 They vowed they never saw sic stuff,
 And in high dudgeon took the huff—
 Nor gaed intul't ;
 To deem the press no' worth a snuff,
 Oh, sic insult !

Says "Postie," I aye thank my God
 For favours granted when abroad ;
 But here it's plain we're in the road,
 A wink is just as guid's a nod ;
 Upon my soul !
 They merit thirty days in quod,
 The darkest hole.

The Killie man, wi' solemn air,
 Says, "This is no' our usual fare ;
 An' for sic treatment I will swear,
 If ocht be in our paper rare,
 About the dinner,
 I'll leave my job, tho' I rue't sair,
 As I'm a sinner."

The Saltcoats man, he vowed and swore,
 He ne'er met sic a shabby core,
 But deil a word o' a the splore,
 Frae this time forth for evermore,
 Wad e'er be printit ;
 Quo' he, "They'll sune fin' out our power,
 When they hae tint it."

The "Mail," the "Herald," "Record," "Scot,"
 A' banned an' cursed sae pipin' hot,
 That it was clear they a' had got
 Their walking orders to boycott
 The opening dinner ;
 And puir K——n, sad was his lot,
 As chiefest sinner.

Now ye wha wad reporters hae
 At opening functions, nicht or day,
 Be sure an' gi'e them their ain way,
 For if you don't, remember, pray,
 What will befa' ye—
 They'll lash ye, scourge ye, flay ye—nay,
 Baith hang an' draw ye.

J. K.



THE BUST OF BURNS AT CARLISLE.

UNVEILING CEREMONY.

THE marble bust of Burns executed by Mr. D. W. Stevenson, R.S.A., and presented to Tullie House by admirers of the Poet, was unveiled in the Art Gallery of the institution on Thursday, 21st July, 1898, by Mr. Wheatley, who made an interesting speech upon the character and achievements of Scotland's National Bard. The chair was occupied by Mr. Crowder, chairman of the Bust Committee, and there was a fair attendance of the general public. Among those present were Mr. David Burns, C.E., secretary of the Bust Committee; Canon Richmond (representing the Tullie House Committee), Mr. D. W. Stevenson (the sculptor), Mr. Sinton (President of the Border Burns Club, Carlisle), Mr. E. T. Paterson (from the Eskdale Burns Club, Langholm), Mr. Robert Crowder, Mr. Archibald Sparke (the librarian), Mr. Lawie, Mr. Malcolm, Dr. Burns, Mr. G. C. Muir, etc. Letters of apology for absence were read from the Mayor, Mr. Allison, M.P., Mr. Watt, Mr. Robert Bateman, Sir Robert Jardine, Mr. Robert Ferguson (of Morton), Mr. George White, Mr. Thomson (President of the Eskdale Burns Club and Provost of Langholm), Mr. W. A. Davidson (secretary of the Dumfries Burns Club), Mr. Polran (secretary of the Hexham Burns Club), Mr. H. C. Howard, etc., etc.

The bust has been mounted on a pedestal of Sicilian marble provided by the Tullie House Committee; and it will be placed in the vestibule of Tullie House, where there are already a number of plaster casts of busts—one of Mr. R. L. Stevenson and the late Bishop of Carlisle—both the work of the sculptor whom the Burns Bust Committee had employed. Mr. Stevenson's conception of the Poet is a very interesting and

pleasing one. He has found his inspiration in Burns's poem of "The Vision," and more particularly the verses uttered by Coila beginning with the line—

With future hope, I oft would gaze.

He is at present engaged on a colossal bronze statue of the Poet, which is to be unveiled at Leith in September, and the head of that work is the same as that depicted in the bust which has now become the property of the citizens of Carlisle.



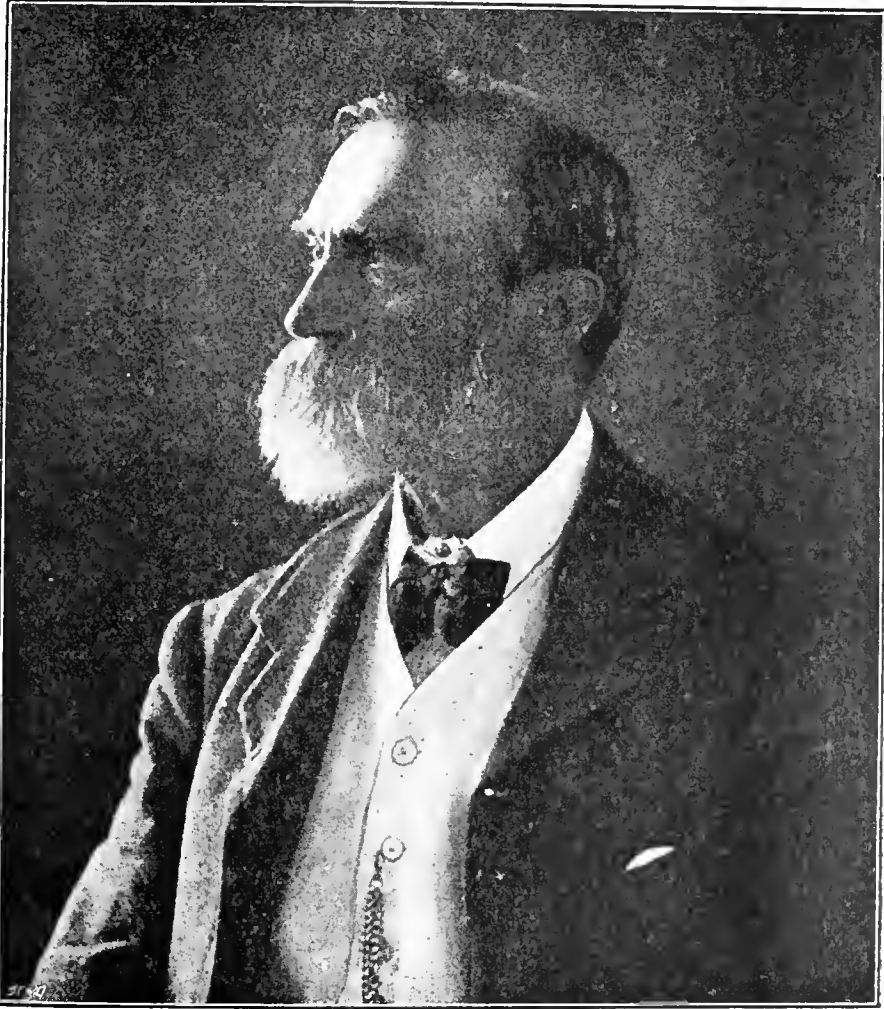
Bust of Burns at Carlisle.

The Chairman, in opening the proceedings, said that as chairman of the committee formed about two years ago to devise and carry out some permanent memorial of the great national Poet of Scotland in the Border City, it was to-day his pleasing duty to hand over the result of their efforts to the

Tullie House Committee in the shape of the bust which they would shortly see unveiled by their friend Mr. Wheatley. In a city which lay so close to Scotland, and which commanded a view of the very hills and valleys which Burns had almost made classic ground by his genius, it would be strange indeed if they possessed no worthy public memorial of the Poet; and surely no more fitting place for its reception could be found than in this excellent institution, the very centre of the intellectual and artistic life of the city. The great demonstrations in Dumfries and other towns of Scotland just two years ago no doubt tended to give this local movement a great impetus, and especially the eloquent and discriminating addresses of Lord Rosebery and others on that interesting occasion, on which he (Mr. Crowder) had the honour among others of representing this city. The sight on that day was one never to be forgotten as they stood for over an hour at the grave-side of the Poet watching the memorial wreaths sent from all parts of the world where Scotsmen lived—and where did they not live?—being deposited in Burns's mausoleum. It was then just a hundred years since the Poet's death, at the early age of 37; and to-day it was exactly 102 years since that wonderful career ended in poverty and disappointment, and they found the well-known and oft-quoted prediction to his wife shortly before the close more than fulfilled—"They'll think a great deal more of me a hundred years after I am dead than now." This had, indeed, been literally fulfilled; and as the years rolled by, Burns's place in the Temple of Fame seemed to grow more and more assured. It had given him much pleasure to be associated with this movement, the result of which would, he felt sure, be a great attraction and source of interest to the thousands who would for many years to come visit this institution; and he trusted in time that the busts of great Cumbrians, whether native born or naturalised in this beautiful county, would also find their places within those walls. He must not forget to say how much of the success of this effort was due to Mr. David Burns, their secretary, in bringing this undertaking to a successful issue. (Cheers.)

Mr. WHEATLEY, who was cordially received, said—On the 21st July, 1796—that is, 102 years ago this very day—died in the neighbouring town of Dumfries, Robert Burns, a man who in the short compass of 37 years lived many lives, and com-

pressed into his marvellous career more lights and shadows of strong contrast, and startling diversities of storm and sunshine, than most ordinary men. His life presents more particularly two aspects in strong antagonism, according to the point of view from which it is regarded—the one of failure, the other of triumph. In the one case we see a youth passed amid sordid surroundings, whose daily experience was a protracted



Mr. Wheatley.

struggle for a bare existence. His life was probably no worse than that of the average Scottish peasant of the period, but the sufferings it entailed must have been aggravated by the consciousness of a high order of intelligence and the fitness for a great career. His every undertaking seemed doomed to failure, and pecuniary misfortune dogged his footsteps and

shadowed his life. In manhood, gifted—or cursed, it may be—with mightier impulses for good and ill than he had power to control, his impetuous temperament caused him to flaunt the faults and follies a more artful man would have concealed, and to defy and deride the powers a more prudent man would have conciliated. Trained in early youth with Spartan severity and self-repression, with freedom had come the inevitable reaction which his fiery passions rendered him unable to withstand. Exiled from the society which he had dared and defied, he drifted into habits and associations beneath him, morally, socially, and intellectually. Poor in purse, ruined in health, a prey to melancholy and remorse, he sank into the grave at an early age, when most men are in the prime of manhood, overpowered by the consciousness of failure, and leaving wife and children unprovided for to the compassion of the world he had found so wanting. Surely this is a tragic picture. But reverse the canvas, and what do we see? A Scottish farm lad whistling at the plough, and something more. Despite his sordid surroundings, he comes of a sturdy race, and his mind is early stocked with a varied store of knowledge. He has read with avidity, and his mind has grasped the beauties of thought and expression of the great masters of literature, but he does not owe his greatness to them. Nature is his chief study even unconsciously, and he is keen to note the loveliness in all her varied forms—the clouds floating over the hills, their shadows stealing across the valleys; the birds singing on the trees, the music of the wimpling burn—all have a meaning and a language for him. His toil is forgotten. As Longfellow words it:—

For him the ploughing of those fields
A more ethereal harvest yields
Than sheaves of grain.
Songs flush with purple bloom the rye;
The plover's call, the curlew's cry,
Sing in his brain.

Grown to man's estate, he fights the battle of life with a dogged courage which defies the adversities of fortune. He bears many scars in life's conflict, and, alas! seeks consolation in defeat not always wisely or well. It is impossible that such a man could remain obscure, and his very gifts of mind and person add to his difficulties and temptations.

But still the burden of his song
 Was love of right, disdain of wrong;
 Were its master chords
 Manhood, Freedom, Brotherhood;
 Its discords were but interlude
 Between the words.

His works bring him fame and enemies. He is the outspoken scourger of cant. His sympathies are ever with the poor and the oppressed. He fights his way with his literature and his wit, and his manifest genius brings him to the front and wins for him his true rank and position. He is received among the literary circles of Edinburgh as in his rightful place, and is even then acknowledged as Scotia's Bard. He wears his honours with dignity and simplicity, but it was not during his lifetime that a poet's real position was assigned to him. His very death, sad and premature as it was, proved a kindly dispensation. It was his fate to avoid the misfortune of many great men who outlived their greatness. Scarcely was Burns laid in his grave than the world awakened to what she had lost, and proclaimed that a great poet had gone. It was well that he died young.

For now he haunts his native land
 An immortal youth; his hand
 Guides every plough;
 He sits beside each ingle nook,
 His voice is in each rushing brook,
 Each rustling bough.

In the marble presentment before us we see him in his best day, an embodiment of manly energy, vigour, and beauty. While doing full justice to the artist's skill, poor and tame at the best are the lifeless outlines of the sculptured form, and powerless to realise our conception of the living man.

Can storied urn, or animated bust,
 Back to its mansion call the fleeting breath?
 Can honour's voice provoke the silent dust,
 Or flattery soothe the dull cold ear of death?

The artist has indeed succeeded in placing very admirably before us the dignified plainness and simplicity which his contemporaries agree in saying were the characteristics of the man; but what artist can recall the rare charm of his presence, the eloquent voice, the impulsive gesture, the flashing eyes (pronounced by Sir Walter Scott to be the most impressive he

had ever seen in human head), and we can only say with our own Tennyson—

Oh, for the touch of a vanished hand,
The sound of a voice that is still.

In placing in Tullie House this tribute to the memory of Burns, I do not desire on the part of his admirers to claim for him qualities he did not possess. There is no need. They are not necessarily blind to his faults, or claim for him immunity from the common lot of humanity. I repeat I am not here to defend his faults or to minimise them. Fierce, ay, fierce as the light that beats upon a throne, is the light that beats on the literary man and the poet. Burns has been subjected to as vindictive and unsparing criticism as it is possible, I suppose, to subject a human being. I do not say that all his critics have been unfriendly or unfair, but I would ask how many characters would stand unstained the test of such an ordeal?—his most trivial actions watched, noted, and recorded often with a jaundiced eye; words spoken in jest and badinage treasured up and weighed with judicial severity; correspondence written with the freedom and confidence of privacy scrutinised with microscopical nicety. Fortunately, if Burns made many foes, his works have made him still more friends. With the passage of time the voice of obloquy and detraction is drowned in acclamation. His faults and follies are forgotten or dwindled down to their true proportion. Only his merits are now remembered. Who would wish it otherwise, or desire to realise the cynical comment of Mark Antony over the dead Cæsar—

The evil that men do lives after them,
The good is oft interred with their bones.

Thank God, a more Christian spirit has replaced Pagan philosophy in our times, and some of the foremost men of the age have not disdained to step into the arena and demand justice and honour for the Peasant Poet. It would be presumption for me to add one unnecessary word. I will only say, therefore, that we are not here to-day to deny that Burns had faults, but that we love his works and his memory, not because of his faults, but in spite of them. We claim for Burns that he was richly endowed with the heaven-born gift of poetry and song.

Coarse and ignoble minds may seek and find garbage in his works, the product of coarse surroundings and his grosser nature. Every man to his taste. We prefer to turn to the noble qualities of his verse and the gems of purity and lustre in which they abound. But why say more? What need? Scottish men and women, at all events, have made up their minds, and require no appeal. Wherever their race abound and their language is spoken, the songs of Burns are as bonds of union and passports to the hearts of all who love their native land. But it is not only Scottish men and women who love Burns, nor even men of the British race. The nobility of thought, the grace and beauty of their expression, have won the admiration of lovers of beauty in every clime and in every tongue. His genius was no forced or cultured product. His songs are like the songs of birds, the natural outpourings of a tuneful heart. They conjure up visions of pure natural beauty as with the enchanter's wand, and awaken with irresistible force the noblest impulses of love, patriotism, and duty. But there is another element in Burns's works besides their sweetness, pathos, and beauty, to which it is necessary to allude if we would understand the secret of the Poet's influence over the hearts of his countrymen, and that is his humour. A French critic of British character accuses us of taking our pleasures sadly, and in a sense it is true; and above all the hard-headed, practical, cautious Scot, is certainly no exception to the rule. And yet there is no human being with a more intense appreciation of the humorous or the ridiculous than the canny Scot. He even loves a joke at his own expense. The humorous side of Burns's character is irresistible; it hangs on the very verge of his pathos, and mingles laughter with our tears. Its comedy is so exquisite that it soothes while it points the keenest satire, and lightens the sting of the yet quivering lash. Perhaps, if I may say so without offence, the most striking feature of Scottish character, as it appears to me, is its thoroughness and intensity. Whether he is making a bargain or praying a prayer, a Scotchman's heart is in his work. Is he drinking or sinning or repenting, working, joking, or fighting, he does it with his might; a warm and generous friend, a cruel and ruthless foe. If he is a good and religious man (of course, we know that nearly all Scotchmen are good and religious), he is a saintly creature, just and upright before men, a born theologian and

controversialist. If, on the contrary, he is that *rara avis*, a bad Scotchman, he is a devil of a fellow. (Laughter.) Now, all this is illustrated in the verse of Burns. Take his "Holy Willie's Prayer." Take his descriptive bits in "Tam O'Shanter"; they whirl us along with demoniacal energy and power. They are, they must be, intensely true. One feels that Burns is not creating a romance; he writes like one possessed. And then his style is like that of no other man; it is all his own. He can write poetry on classic lines, and sometimes does so; but at heart he is the Scottish peasant still revelling in the vernacular, describing the scenes of homely life in which he has lived and shared; its lights and shadows, its joys and sorrows, with vigorous power and absolute accuracy. I feel I have done scanty justice to my theme, but time forbids that I should detain you longer. I will only add in conclusion that this house seems a right and most suitable abode for this noble work of art. It already contains a collection of pictures and other relics of the Albert Club, an institution largely composed of the admirers of the Poet, of a past generation of our city. Some of these are of considerable value and interest, as associated with the memory of the Poet and some of his descendants. The history of the city of Carlisle is one of deadly strife with Scotland for many centuries, and it is here, in our newly instituted Pantheon, devoted to the arts of peace, that at the close of the nineteenth century, we pay our homage at the shrine of Scotland's greatest Poet. The honour paid to the memory of Robert Burns in this room to-day will, I trust, be received as a hand-clasp across the Border—a link in the chain which binds together a people once severed in rivalry and national hate, but now united in adamantine bonds of fraternal sympathy and love. (Cheers.)

MR. CROWDER then, in the name of the Bust Committee and the subscribers, formally handed the bust over to Canon Richmond as representing the Tullie House Committee, expressing the hope that the bust might prove to be a worthy addition to the many attractions of that fine and useful institution.

CANON RICHMOND, in accepting the gift, said that Tullie House seemed to be just the place for such a memorial of intellect and ability and in many ways of high worth. Tullie House was a place intended to raise the thoughts and

sentiments, and thereby the actions, of the citizens, and they desired to collect and put before the citizens those things which were pure, beautiful, and of good report, and to make it easy for them to study the finest things in literature and art. They also looked forward to the time when not only literature and art would be represented and taught here, but when also science would make enormous strides from this place. The committee were broad-minded and open-handed. Open-handed often meant generous, but the committee were open-handed to receive gifts as well as to give them, and they were therefore very grateful to the chairman and secretary of the Bust Committee who had given them this excellent bust. He had had the pleasure of looking at the bust on Wednesday. It was rather heroic in size. It was something larger than life, and Burns looked upwards from a height which conveyed an aspect which he would not have shown had he been face to face with them in the flesh. Burns had all the gifts of poetry. Those gifts are very simple, but they must be very strong. Burns had perception, he had the eye to see; he had heart, he had the love of humanity that gave that heart feeling; and he had the power to speak from the heart. Now, they had people with these qualities separately, but they did not make a very great mark in life. A man who had got the power of speech without the other two gifts was a bore; the man who had got the power of feeling and could not express it often became a miserable creature, keeping to himself and bemoaning everything; and the man who could only see could not touch the depths of every man's feelings as the poet did. Burns was fearless, and could not stand cant. He was brought up among religious opinions which were not in accordance at all with his own nature, and which, he thought, had died out even in Scotland. He thought, however, that in that process they had lost some of the good which came along with those religious opinions, some of the sturdiness, some of the deep religion, but they had gained on the side of charity and humanity. Burns was a man who took the charitable and the humane side. Again and again he (Canon Richmond) had quoted Burns's words in sermons, and was not ashamed to quote them, because they went deep down into the heart, for they were human and they were true, as truth is true. He again expressed his thanks to the committee for presenting to

Tullie House this remarkably fine and artistic portrait of Burns, which no doubt had been conceived from the study of various other portraits which existed, and in which was brought before them a man of flesh and blood, although depicted in marble. (Applause.)

Mr. DAVID BURNS proposed a vote of thanks to the sculptor. The motion was seconded by Dr. Burns, and agreed to.

Mr. STEVENSON, in responding, said that although the task of producing the bust had been by no means a light one, still it had been enlivened by the pleasure he had derived in the doing of it.

Mr. MATHER proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Wheatley for the manner in which he had unveiled the bust, and expressed a hope that a bust of Wordsworth would ere long be placed in Tullie House. Mr. Malcolm seconded the motion.

Mr. WHEATLEY, in acknowledging the compliment, agreed with Mr. Mather as to the desirability of placing a bust of Wordsworth in Tullie House, and suggested that other busts, such as of Anderson, the Cumberland bard; Sir Walter Scott, and others, might also be placed in the Institution.

Mr. SINTON, president of the Border Burns Club, Carlisle, and author of "Burns and the Excise," proposed a vote of thanks to Canon Richmond, not only as a representative of the Tully House Committee, but also as a Church of England Canon, for churchmen and kirkmen had not always looked kindly on Burns. It was impossible for any sculptor, however talented, to satisfactorily reproduce Burns in marble. But they were all agreed that this was one of the best busts of Burns yet produced. It was an admirable presentment of one of the rarest intellectual combinations which the world had ever seen. That bust would become an additional source of attraction to visitors, and be the means of inducing greater numbers of people on the English side of the Border to read the life and works of the great Scottish Bard, and so be enabled to judge for themselves of the nature and extent of his influence and achievements.

Mr. J. P. D. WHEATLEY seconded the motion, and it was agreed to

Canon RICHMOND, having responded, proposed a similar compliment to the chairman and secretary of the Bust Committee, and Mr. Wheatley seconded the motion. Mr. Crowther (the chairman) responded, and the proceedings terminated.



John Sinton.

The Bust Committee propose to keep the fund open, with the object of founding a Burns Reference Library at Tullie House, and it is anticipated that a matter of £20 more would enable them to carry this idea into effect.



UNVEILING OF THE BURNS STATUE AT LEITH.

ADDRESS BY MR. MUNRO FERGUSON, M.P.

THE statue of Robert Burns, which has been erected at the junction of Bernard Street and Constitution Street, Leith, was unveiled on Saturday, 15th October, 1898, by Mr. Munro Ferguson, M.P. As the event was one unprecedented in the history of the burgh, it excited a good deal of interest, and the ceremony was made the occasion of a popular demonstration, in which all classes of the community joined. The seaport was in holiday mood. Flags floated over the public buildings, and a large display of bunting and other decorative agencies in the principal streets made the town look unusually gay. Oddfellows, Ancient Shepherds, Free Gardeners, Good Templars, Rechabites, Foresters, and kindred societies, turned out in their several regalias; trade societies assembled with the banners and insignia of their craft; the Corporation graced the occasion in their robes of office; Burns clubs sent representatives to the ceremony, and half-a-dozen bands made music for the procession as it marched from the Links to Bernard Street. Long before the head of the procession reached the statue, a crowd of several thousands had collected behind the barricades, while round the platform erected for the performance of the ceremony a number of ladies and gentlemen, who had been invited to take part in the proceedings, were waiting. At three o'clock, the hour fixed for the unveiling, the Earl of Rosebery arrived. It was fully half-past three before Provost Bennet, with the Magistrates and Council, and the members of the Leith Burns Club (under whose auspices the statue has been erected), mounted the platform, and by that time, as far as the eye could see along Bernard Street and Constitution Street, the thoroughfares were thronged, while every window was crowded with onlookers. In addition to the Provost Magistrates, and Town Councillors of the burgh, there were present on the platform:—Lord Rosebery; Mr. Munro Ferguson, M.P., and Lady Helen Ferguson; Lord Provost Mitchell Thomson, Edinburgh; Councillor Richard Mackie, chairman of the Leith Burns Club; Mr. G. K. Sowersby, the secretary; ex-Provost Aitken; Mr. D. W. Stevenson, R.S.A., who executed the statue; Mr. John Wallace, architect, who designed the pedestal; Captain Howling, Mr. E. T. Salvesen, advocate; Mr. D. W. Kemp, Mr. John Smart, R.S.A.; Mr. Craibe Angus, etc., etc.

The proceedings commenced with the singing of the Old Hundred, after which prayer was offered up by the Rev. J. H. M'Culloch, North Leith Parish Church.

Councillor RICHARD MACKIE, president of the Club, then shortly addressed the gathering. He said this was the first gathering of its kind that had ever been held within their ancient seaport. It was a fitting thing that a statue to the National Poet should be erected in Leith, and it was also fitting that it should be done through the instrumentality of the Leith Burns Club. The size of that great gathering of Leith folks, the splendid turnout of the trade and friendly societies, was abundant proof, if proof were needed, that sympathy with the movement was of far wider dimensions than that of any club or list of subscribers. The statue had been erected in the commercial centre of the town, and it would be passed and repassed daily in the years to come by large numbers of hard-working men. Burns's message was to all classes of men, and the presence of that presentment of his face and figure would probably serve to remind some that money-making was not the great end and aim of life. They were all proud of Burns, and he was sure he spoke the sentiments of every member of the Burns Club, of the shrewd and sensible working and business people of all departments of trade, and of the thousands of their town's people in distant parts of the world, when he said that they should all be prouder than ever of the Port of Leith after that day's work. (Applause.)

MR. MUNRO FERGUSON, who was received with loud cheering, next addressed the assemblage prior to unveiling the statue. He said—I am invited as your representative to present this statue to Leith in memory of the greatest of Scotsmen, the guardian of liberty, our best-loved hero. We meet on a common platform, for as Burns is above all party, sect, or class, so are we, his admirers, when assembled here together. It is a mark of the healthy spirit, of the unity of our race, when the most ardent Radical truly reveres the name of Scott and the most unbending Tory enthusiastically acclaims that of Burns. His life and its struggles, his verse and his satire, live in the mind, stir the blood, inspire the action of all sorts and conditions of men. (Applause.) It could be wished, and certainly by no one more than myself, that this ceremony were performed by one fitted to speak upon Burns. That has been done before, and in more than one of the most noble of memorial orations. It has been done so often and so well that it should not be too rashly attempted again. That is, perhaps, why you have fallen back upon purely local resources, upon one of the humbler, if one of the most faithful, of the students of our National Poet. We have to express our gratitude to the Leith Club. Leith has fewer statues than Edinburgh, but now, with the aid of

Mr. Stevenson, she has one which can hold its own by the side of the best of those with which the capital has adorned itself. Edinburgh has the portrait by Nasmyth, but that, in the view of a great authority, was "Burns diminished; seen in perspective"—a criticism which will not be made on our statue. The Club has brought before our citizens, to stand here for ever, the best representation it could obtain of the man whom of all others we most wish we could have seen. For the more our interest is awakened in some great attractive or mysterious personality the more we long to know the form in which it dwelt. No memoir, no history, can quite do that for us. In the pages of Froude one may almost see Queen Mary on her last morning at Fotheringay Castle, but what would we not give to have her picture as she landed here upon our sands from France. Though we almost see Burns in his writings, and follow his varying moods by the trace of his pen, still, even this picture is incomplete, for we know from the men and women most competent to judge that in appearance, in controversy, and in conversation he was no less remarkable than as a poet. The erection of a statue is immaterial to the reputation of Burns. No portrait or statue can make a reputation. Between St. Giles' and the Parliament House, Charles II. fills the eye, high upon his charger, but you must closely search the cobble stones ere you discover one of the most notable of all memorials, the little bronze plate with its J.K.—all that stands and all that ever need stand for that other great tribune of the Scottish people—John Knox. It does not follow, however, that this memorial will not affect us. We are here in a money-making, struggling, striving city, not without its stirring traditions—what nook of Scotia's soil is without them?—but not exactly a home which it could occur to anyone to call "mine own romantic town." Like some other things, and, as in the Inventory of Mossgiel, a good deal has to be taken as it is found. With our lives it is less so—they are more what we and our friends like to make them, and the time of accomplishment is very short. Burns is a sure friend and comforter in the struggle of life to all who know him. Will his figure standing here not inspire many a man with even one new thought as he passes by, whether to hand work or head work? Will it not give him something to cheer the common task or to banish the sordid care; something to stir to some practical

reflection—"Be independent," and therefore "gather gear," though "Who fears for honest poverty"; something kindly—

"Then gently scan your brother Man,
Still gentler sister Woman ;"

something that bites, as when he urged enlightenment—

"There's nane ever fear'd that the truth should be heard,
But they wham the truth wad indite ;"

something that warns—

"Man's inhumanity to man makes countless thousands mourn."

And so on, through war ode or love sonnet, with letter or address, until each chord that is in us may be touched by that master hand. (Applause.) That I believe to be the true need for a memorial here, no less than in the West, the land of Burns. The East may be far set from the West in some ways, but such differences only serve to remind us that there is no parochialism in his spirit, no selfishness in his patriotism. It has been said of one kind of patriotism that it shrinks like leather in the cold, hating all that is foreign, making a man no more a citizen of the world, but only a narrow particularist. That again, to another, patriotism means that his heart is warmed, that this warmth extends and diffuses itself, until his love embraces not only his immediate belongings, but the whole country, the whole civilised world. As then the heart of Burns went out to all mankind in sympathy; as he dared to strike as none other has struck against oppression, superstition, and wrong—he gave us his motto, "I dare"—so the heart of the world goes out now, as it has and ever will, to one of the strongest, the kindest, the most honest of men. What is there that we would wish for more than to have in our veins the blood of some friend to Burns—one who had stood by him when his "back was at the wa'." So far as addresses upon Burns can carve out his niche in the Temple of Fame, that work, begun by his contemporaries and carried on by Carlyle, was finished at the Centenary celebrations. There are already memoirs, essays, and speeches in the Burns literature which are an adequate conclusion to the whole of that matter—almost as remarkable, some of them, in their own way, as is the life itself. Yet people still speak, or are expected to speak, inside or outside of Burns Clubs; still fresh discoveries are made; and still are his memorials set up as

the most cherished of our Lares. The Dumfries Centenary showed the depth and breadth of this great current of affection. The concourse of people there, the thousands of delegates, the interminable stream of deputations bearing their tributes, with which even South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand combined to heap the grave—among them none were found to withhold regret and admiration a hundred years after one of the saddest of all deaths. There was the same wide difference between the passing of Burns and its commemoration as between the scene of the great historical entry into Jerusalem two thousand years ago and that which is being prepared for another entry there next month. (Laughter.) And all this was no unreasoned enthusiasm. Scotsmen seldom act without consideration, and have not been commonly taunted with leaving the head too much or too long under the influence of the heart. These centenary celebrations, like the addresses, were the outcome of a mature judgment upon Burns which had not been finally delivered until then. After all, it took the English twice as long to discover what they had produced in Shakespeare. We, with all our advantages in knowledge of local colouring and of glossary, were not always unhampered in forming our judgment. For example, in the preface to a model edition, published well on in this century, the respectable editor informs us that, dulness being preferable to unorthodoxy, he had virtuously bowdlerised and left out some of the chief pieces. Many other good people have had their “doots” about Burns, which may still be heard in select circles outside Scotland; but in another hundred years the non-Scottish world, if such a thing should then exist, will see him as he is. Even now one may still hear of Burns as a somewhat uncouth prodigy, the writer of delicately beautiful songs, of one orthodox representation of life as it ought to be in a labourer’s model cottage, and of other pieces, not so delicate, upon Scottish peculiarities of the olden time—these written in a tongue which, more often than not, happily veils them from the unctuous rectitude of the civilised world. Amongst the English poets, Tennyson judged him favourably, but solely by his songs. Wordsworth found nothing favourable in them. Now, we in Scotland form our estimate of Burns mainly upon his infinite power to awaken and to give effect to human sympathy, on the one hand; and, on the other, to kindle scorn against all

oppression, all cant, all that is mean ; upon his fearless crusade against the inequality of human condition ; upon his love of independence, his spirit of liberty. If there have been greater singers than he, not one has appealed so directly to so many with less thought of his hire, or with more regard for the glory of his country—not one has consecrated such powers to the service of the people. No statesman or writer has wielded a more beneficent influence than Burns in spurring on the world to free itself from false dogma, pretension, or prejudice. Yet, in his call for freedom, in his demand for essential equality, he was neither a literary dreamer nor a mouthing revolutionary. To him freedom meant independence. The equality he worshipped was that of intellect and character. He idealised rude toil and glorified honest poverty ; he preached the honest man as the noblest work of God ; and it was standing on that impregnable rock that he struck down every sham. He gave his message to a world towards which he had no cause to feel particularly grateful, yet his was not the impulse of pique or envy, nor his the rage of hatred or malice. His Voltairean powers of ridicule were debased in no petty service. Had he cared,

“Ower hot for thought, ower fast for rule,”

to be a demagogue, he might have shown what a demagogue could be. But the tree of liberty which he set up struck deep its roots, and flung wide its branches as a lasting protection to the law-abiding people whom he loved so well. And he struck his highest note to bequeath the great article of his creed when he was sick unto death ; suffering from want, stung by neglect, “uncertain whether his message had been delivered, haunted by despair.” We judge of the relative value of his works by one very simple test—that of learning him by heart in youth, and by realising later on the lines that come home to us most readily. My impression is that the songs are commonly associated with the general mass of our minstrelsy as are the Psalms of David with much of the Bible. (Applause.) It would be hard for most of us to name off-hand those who wrote the familiar words in the ordinary soiree programme with “their wild happiness of thought and expression,” but we all know who wrote “Holy Willie,” and took his laugh at the sisters twain of the “Holy Fair ;”

who it was that made a poor drunken gang of cadgers rank with the immortals; and who wrote, as only one man could write, to king and cottar, "The Unco Guid" or "Beelzebub," "The Twa Dogs" or "The Scottish Representatives," "Dr. Hornbook" or "The Young Friend," "John Barleycorn" or "The Daisy," "Hallowe'en" or "Toothache," "Mouse" or "Whistle." It is by such pictures of life in all its infinite richness and variety, tinted by Turner, that we know our Poet. As well judge Scott by "Rokeby" and "The Life of Napoleon" as judge Burns without these. He was no saint, but then he never set up as one. (Applause.) He rather gave wholesome justice to saints of various kinds. As he said, "The devil, the world, and the flesh are three formidable foes. The first I generally try to fly from, the second, alas! generally tries to fly from me, but the third is my plague." Yet, if he did some things that he ought not to have done, and left undone some others that he might have done, we know of it all chiefly from himself, for he "scorned to lee," and we are not going to be too hard on a man who toiled for men. And now I dedicate this statue to his memory—that memory which we could spare least from Scottish annals, for to him we chiefly owe that image of Scotland which we cherish in our hearts. He is the type of our race, the spirit incarnate of our national character in all its strength and in all its weakness, and the man who has added meaning and richness and endearment to the very name of Scotland. (Loud applause.)

Mr. MUNRO FERGUSON pulled the cord which was to release the veiling of the statue, amid loud cheers. Several photographs were taken of the ceremony at this point from windows overlooking the statue, while the band played, "There was a Lad was Born in Kyle."

Councillor MACKIE handed the statue over to the keeping of the Town Council, expressing the hope that the first statue erected in Leith would soon be followed by others. (Applause.)

Provost BENNET, in accepting on behalf of the Corporation the custody of the statue, said that the Magistrates were aware of the responsibilities which they undertook in taking over the memorial, and he assured the public that the Burns Club deserved the thanks of the community for all it had done in the matter. (Applause.)

On the motion of Mr. A. WALKER, vice-president of the Burns Club, a vote of thanks was given to the various Trade and Friendly Societies which had taken part in the day's proceedings, and Mr. Munro Ferguson was also thanked for his presence and speech.

In the course of the proceedings there were calls for "Rosebery," but his Lordship could not be prevailed upon to interfere with the programme which had been arranged. As he left the platform and proceeded to his carriage, the band of the 5th V.B. Royal Scots, under Mr. Dambmann, played "Auld Lang Syne" and the National Anthem, after which his Lordship was loudly cheered.

The crowd shortly afterwards dispersed, the members of the Trade and Friendly Societies departing, as they had arrived, in processional order.

CAKE AND WINE BANQUET.

After the open-air proceedings a cake and wine banquet took place in the Assembly Rooms, Constitution Street. Councillor Richard Mackie, the chairman of the club, presided, and a company of about three hundred accepted the invitation of the club. The croupiers were Councillor Bryson, Mr. A. Walker, and Mr. W. Thomson.



NOTES AND QUERIES.

AYR BURNS CLUB AND DUNURE LIGHT RAILWAY.

8th September, 1898.

AT a recent meeting of Ayr Burns Club a deputation was appointed to approach the Glasgow and South-Western Railway Company with a view to securing that the proposed Maidens and Dunure light railway, in passing through Alloway, should interfere as little as possible with the amenity of the Burns country. The deputation had an interview with Mr. Cooper, general manager, who was accompanied by Mr. Melville, engineer, and Mr. Mackenzie, assistant solicitor to the company.

The deputation mentioned the following points—(1) The desirability of altering the line of deviation of the proposed railway, so that it may pass at a greater distance from the Auld Kirk of Alloway, and of crossing the river Doon further to the west than shown on the plans; (2) that the bridges over the Doon should be of a character in consonance with the surrounding scenery; (3) that if possible the gradients should be altered in passing under Longhill Avenue, so that the level of the road should remain undisturbed; and (4) that cuttings where visible to the eye should be ornamented with trees and shrubs.

The deputation report that they were received by Mr. Cooper in the most friendly and courteous manner. With regard to the first point, he said he was afraid he could not meet the views of the deputation, as the alteration suggested would mean an encroachment on the Cambusdoon estate. With regard to Nos. 2 and 4, he said he would see that the wishes of the deputation were carried into effect. As to No. 3, he said the engineer would endeavour to alter his gradients so that the raising of the road would be lessened, if not removed altogether, and that the trees in the avenue should be disturbed as little as possible.

The deputation decided that, in view of what Mr. Cooper had said, it was unnecessary that the club should take any further action in the matter.

BURNS CLUB SECRETARY FINED.

LATELY, at Hawick J.P. Court, a complaint was made against Henry Flockhart, secretary of Hawick Burns Club, for using notepaper belonging to the club, having armorial bearings on it, without a license. Respondent pleaded not guilty, and it was urged on his behalf that the club had merely got a device for their notepaper as a distinguishing mark, and they had chosen an emblem similar to that used by the family of the poet Burns, considering this to be appropriate for a Burns Club. They had no intention of using armorial bearings or of breaking the law. The charge was found proven, however, the emblem having a shield with a device on it, and a crest above. Flockhart was fined £2 2s.

BURNS RELIC.

10 Forth Street, Edinburgh.

A MOST interesting relic of Burns is at present in my possession for a short time. It is an oil picture representing the three jovial companions who gathered to pree the "barley bree." In the centre at a table sits W. Nicol with a punch bowl in front of him, into which he is pouring the contents of a bottle of whisky; it is most unmistakably whisky, and this perhaps may be placed as an evidence as to the question whether whisky or ale was the browst on that memorable meeting.

On the right sits Burns in the act of singing, and pointing to the moon, which is seen through a window. His costume is the same as that in the Nasmyth portrait—dark coat, striped vest with lapels, buckskin breeches, and top boots. The figure is full of action, strongly built, and the hair the same as in the well-known portrait. One rather remarkable circumstance is noticed. In his left hand he holds a clay pipe. Another lies on the table. Surely this is the first notice of poets having used tobacco. In Chambers's recent edition of Burns, which I rate as the best, there is no record in the index of the words tobacco, smoking, or pipe, which seems strange; or was snuffing more common? On the left is Allan Masterton, holding a tumbler, and looking to the spectator. The artistic merit of the picture is amateurish, and evidently done by some local Dick Tinto.

But the history of the work is complete, and takes the performance back to the time of Burns. In 1793 it was painted by a friend of William Nicol's at Laggan, Nithsdale. This was a small place that Nicol had purchased on the advice of Burns, and the song "Willie Brew'd a Peck o' Maut" was composed in memory of the house-heating, Burns and Masterton agreeing "each in his own way to celebrate the business." The Poet wrote the song and Allan Masterton the music, as he did for some other songs. The picture was presented by Nicol to Burns, and was in his possession at the time of his death in Dumfries in 1796. It was purchased by Captain Ewart (a native of Ayrshire) at the sale of Burns's effects at Dumfries in 1834, and afterwards given to his daughter, wife of William Ketchen, solicitor, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and was in her house until after her husband's death in 1879. The above is vouched for by George Hannah, who had the particulars from Mrs. Ketchen. It then became the property of the said George Hannah, then passed from him by purchase into the collection of a Dr. Stewart, Nottingham, at the sale of whose library, &c., in 1885, it was bought by Mr. William Withers, Leicester, and was in his custody till November last, when it descended to his son, Mr. H. Withers, Manchester, from whom its present possessor obtained it.

Thus this most interesting, though somewhat rude attempt to portray the famous three, and painted by a contemporary, after being in the Poet's house and after many wanderings, comes back to Edinburgh. I will be pleased to show it to any interested, and would also desiderate information regarding the points relating to the use of tobacco or the elements of the browst.—I am, etc.,

[GEO. AIKMAN.]

THE STATEMENT OF ROBERT BURNS TO THE BOARD OF EXCISE IN ANSWER TO THE PETITION OF ROBERT EDGAR, MALTSTER.

1stly.—On my getting the books of the division, I found a notice depending from Mr. Edgar to steep as on the Saturday. Mr. Lewards accompanied me, as on Thursday following, thinking of securing a couch gauge; but we were surprised with finding the kiln-head covered with malt nearly dry.

2ndly.—Whether Mr. Edgar used to malt all his grain at one operation. I know he had four or five large operations; but be that as it may, a previous entry was absolutely necessary by Act of Parliament, which entry Mr. Edgar had never made. As to the officer telling him that no entry was needful, it is false; no officer would or durst have said so.

3rdly.—When I had gauged the malt on the kiln-head, I asked if it was all he had ; he said it was. I then desired him to show me his floors and places where he kept his malt, on which he took me to a barn, which, he said, was all the places he used for that purpose. In the meantime Mr. Lewards went to the other large barn, and insisted on seeing it also. This Mr. Edgar positively refused to do, until we threatened to break up the barn door by force. He at last produced the key.

[The copy from which this was taken is in the Mechanics' Institute in Liverpool. [R. W. MACFADZEAN.]

YOUR "Burns Obituary" says :—

"Grose, Francis, F.S.A. Died May 12, 1791, aged 52."

The *Dublin University Magazine* for October, 1853, pages 400 and 401, in an article on "Irish Rivers," says :—

"From Glasneven we pass on the river Tolka to Drumcondra. The adjoining church contains the monument of F. Grose, the antiquarian. The following is the inscription, which has the singular merit, for an epitaph, of being literally true :—

‘ To the Memory of
Captain FRANCIS GROSE, F.R.S.,
Who, whilst in cheerful conversation with his friends,
Expired in their arms without a sigh,
18th of May, 1791.
Aged 60.’

He died telling a story after dinner, a short time after his arrival in Dublin, to prepare the learned work which was subsequently finished by Dr. Ledwich."

There are thus three points of difference.

Of course he may have	}	Obit. says—F.S.A., 12 May, age 52.
been <i>both</i>		
F.S.A. and F.R.S.	}	<i>Mag.</i> ,, —F.R.S., 18 May, ,, 60.

Who shall decide when doctors disagree ?

[W. INNES ADDISON]
Glasgow University

JAMES GLENCAIRN BURNS.

CAPTAIN JAMES G. BURNS, son of Scotia's favourite Bard, arrived in Edinburgh on Tuesday, after an absence of twenty years. He is on his way to Dumfries to visit his mother.

Glasgow Herald, Friday, 16th September, 1831.

THE POET'S ELDEST SON.

IT was recently established that Robert Burns, the eldest son of the Poet, was a prize-winner at Glasgow University, and it now falls to be added that, in 1802, he was presented by the Duke of Hamilton and Brandon to a bursary on what is known as "Duchess Anne's Mortification," founded in 1694. So far as I am aware, this fact has hitherto been unheard of by

the public, and it is probably worth "making a note on." Remembering the Poet's democratic principles, and the freedom with which he avowed them, it is refreshing to find that, within six years of his death, a substantial boon like this should have been conferred on his son by the premier Duke.

Glasgow Evening News ("Lorgnette" column),
19th April, 1897.

THE LIFE OF JAMES M'COSH: A RECORD CHIEFLY AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL. Edited by WILLIAM MILLIGAN SLOANE. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark. 1896.

ON p. 19, after describing the state of religion and morals in Ayrshire, the author says:—

"The consequence of all this was that there was no healthy public sentiment on these subjects. The drinking men were genial, and commonly very popular. The falls of young men and women were readily excused. The Kirk Session exercised discipline, but the rebukes on the cutty-stool were of a coarse description, and tended rather to harden the character.

"It is easy to see how, under these circumstances, young Robert Burns was so easily led astray by the flax-dresser in Irvine, when he went to live there. I can speak on this subject with confidence, for I was born fifteen years after his death, on the same river which he has made so famous, and I know the circumstances in which he lived. When he came back from Edinburgh, in which he had been so well treated, he declared he had found as much wit and talent among 'the jolly bachelors of Tarbolton' as in the highest literary circles of Edinburgh. But he adds that he had not met with a pure refinement of mind among females until he visited the metropolis of Scotland. Burns's example, his perpetual outflow of wit and humour, and some of his poems circulated among the people, tended to foster the views of which I have been speaking. The tradition is, that when he got into a jovial party in his later life, his expression was in the first instance dull, and his countenance flat enough, but as he drank the rounds of toddy he brightened amazingly, and kept the whole table in a roar. There were no temperance societies in those days to raise a public sentiment against the evils. The scholarly preaching in the churches had little effect on the great body of the people. As a rule, the moderate clergy favoured young Burns. The most devoted clergy were exposed by him and his friends to ridicule." [W. INNES ADDISON.]

SOME ACCOUNT OF MY LIFE AND WRITINGS: AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY BY THE LATE SIR ARCHIBALD ALISON, BART., D.C.L. Edited by his daughter-in-law, LADY ALISON. Wm. Blackwood & Sons, Edinburgh and London. 1883.

VOL. I., page 517:—

"An interesting meeting took place at Ayr in August, 1844, in which I bore a part. This was a commemoration of Burns, suggested by the return of his sons from India to this country. The idea first occurred to the enthusiastic mind of Professor Wilson, ever ready with the liberality of true genius to offer the tribute of praise to kindred eminence. Lord Eglinton, who consented to become chairman, gave it the aid of his brilliant eloquence and deserved popularity. A huge pavilion was constructed near the Bridge of Doon and Alloway Kirk, near to the house in which the immortal Bard had been born, and in this pavilion the banquet

took place, and 2000 persons were assembled. Lord Eglinton's opening address, though brief, was extremely felicitous; and Professor Wilson's, who spoke next, though rather too long, thrilled every heart by the generosity of feeling and enthusiastic ardour with which it abounded. The 'Memory of Scott, Campbell, and Byron' was entrusted to me; and my speech on the occasion, which I was careful to make brief, was reprinted in *Blackwood's Magazine* for September, 1844, and afterwards in the American edition of my Essays. I was glad to find that my voice filled the spacious room, and was heard by all the numerous company."

Vol. II., pp. 238-9:—

"The 25th January, 1859, was the hundredth anniversary of the birth of Burns, and great preparations were being made to celebrate it with *éclat*. The public enthusiasm increased daily, and as the day approached the excitement became extreme. The dinner in Glasgow was in an especial manner the object of interest, as Colonel Burns, the son of the Poet, had promised to be present there on the occasion. The committee entrusted with its direction early applied to me to take the chair on the occasion; but being very averse to such displays, when not called on for the purposes of charity or public duty, I earnestly recommended them to get some eminent man from a distance, who might prove a greater attraction than a person with whom they were all familiar. They were unsuccessful, however, in doing so, and I was ultimately obliged to undertake the duties of chairman. The dinner took place in the City Hall, when covers were laid for 800, which were rapidly filled up. Besides this there were several other dinners at a cheaper rate in different parts of the city, and the excitement the whole day was very great. We had a large party in the house, including my able and agreeable friend Mr. Monckton Milnes, and Colonel Burns, who gave universal satisfaction from the unaffected simplicity and quaintness of his manner, and the beauty with which he sang some of his father's songs. The dinner went off with great *éclat*, and no toast in Scotland was probably ever received with greater enthusiasm than that of "The Immortal Memory of Robert Burns" was that evening. The speech I made in proposing it was, of course, very eulogistic, but not more so than what I really felt; for from my earliest years I had entertained the utmost admiration for the Scottish Bard. I had an hereditary right to do so; for my father, who was intimately acquainted with him, was so impressed with his genius while he was as yet unknown to fame that he kept the original copy of "Auld Lang Syne," which the Bard gave him, till it literally fell to pieces in his waistcoat pocket.

[W. INNES ADDISON.]

WILLIAM NIVEN, OF KIRKBRIDE.

IN the old churchyard of Maybole, on the site once occupied by the Parish Church, there stands a small granite tombstone, bearing the following inscription:—"In memory of William Niven, of Kirkbride, deceased 18th November, 1844, aged 85; and of his wife, Isabella C. Niven, deceased 15th February, 1841, aged 68. Their mortal remains are laid here." [The *Ayr Advertiser*, of 19th December, 1844, says Mr. Niven died on 13th December, in his 83rd year.]

The chief public interest attaching to Mr. Niven now is that he was a schoolfellow of Burns at Kirkoswald. After leaving school, Niven was taken home to assist his father in business, but his early friendship with Burns was not forgotten, and when the first edition of our Bard's poems was published Niven disposed of seven copies for him, price £1 1s. Burns was grateful, and came to Maybole to receive the money. He lodged in the King's Arms, and it is traditionally reported that his hire of a horse to take him home was the first hire he ever indulged in. A short time after, he sent a letter to Mr. Niven (original in possession of Mr. Rennie, Union Bank), which will be found in Scott Douglas's Edinburgh edition.

Mr. Niven, by dint of enterprise and extreme frugality, amassed the large fortune of £100,000, it is said, with which he purchased the estate of Kirkbride, in the parish of Kirkmichael, and became the great man of Maybole in his day. He ruled the town so completely that a stamp of his foot at any time would clear the street. An Irishman, who had been employed at his lime-works on Auchalton, thus expressed pointedly, though somewhat profanely, the general appreciation of him:—"Well, Paddy, when you go home to your own country, who will you say gave you employment here?" "Sir," said Pat, "I will say he was the Lord God of Maybole, and master of all the limekilns in sight!"

His parsimony was extreme. When entertaining a party to dinner, he would look round the table at dessert time and say—"Wha's for cheese?—I'm for nane," which generally prevented any one from asking a supply. The very number of potatoes required for dinner were said to be daily counted out. He was very fond, too, of getting people to work to him for nothing, and then saying to them in a confidential whisper—"I'll mind you for this some day," which he never did.

His avarice grew with his years. On his deathbed he remarked to a friend, "I think if I were spared other two years I would be independent," showing that with *him*, too, riches meant a *little more*. He was agent for Hunter & Company's Bank, but rarely discounted a bill to anyone without having five or six names to it, and a substantial purchase made from his shop beside. And once, on a friend remarking to him, "Mr. Niven, Providence has been kind to you," he coolly replied, "Providence, Sir, had naething to dae wi't; I did it a' mysel'."

One of the most affecting relics of him is a small bow window he got built in his garden wall behind the Tolbooth, at which, in his old days, he used to sit and gaze through a telescope at his estate of Kirkbride. Poor old body, with all his riches and pomposity, it came low enough with him at last! He got his windows smashed at the Reform Bill time, and finally died, as Attie Hughes expressed it, "wid the consint of the whole town;" while those who succeeded to his property cared so little, apparently, for his memory that, had it not been for a reminder in my first lecture on Maybole, it is probable he would not even yet have had a stone to mark his grave.

[R. LAWSON, Maybole.]

BURNS IN CARRICK.

EVERYBODY knows that our national Poet was born at Alloway, which is in the district of Kyle. I mention this with some natural regret, as I used to have an idea that all great Scotsmen were born in Carrick, or ought to have been so. However, after all, there is only the breadth of the Doon between Kyle and Carrick, a fact which Burns himself takes note of when he sings—

"My father was a farmer upon the Carrick border,
And carefully he bred me in decency and order."

But this is not all; for although Burns was born in Kyle, his mother was born in Carrick. His father, on the outlook for a good wife, had wandered one Fair day to Maybole, and there met his destiny in the person of a comely lass, eleven years his junior, of the name of Agnes Brown, daughter of the farmer at Craigenton, in Kirkoswald parish. Agnes Brown had little education, and never could sign her own name, but she was a good, kindly, sensible woman, a notable willing worker, a devoted wife, and above all, she was the *mother of Burns*. And if Burns's father sat for his portrait in the "Cottar's Saturday Night," we may be sure that Agnes Brown sat for hers in the same poem, where

"The mither, wi' her needle and her shears,
Gars auld claes look amaist as weel's the new."

Her daughter, Mrs. Begg, who lived so long beside us, says that her mother was "about the ordinary height; a well-made, sonsy figure, with a beautiful red and white complexion—a skin the most transparent she ever saw—pale red hair, dark eyes and eye-brows, with a fine square forehead; and with all her good qualities (a good musical ear among the rest), she had a temper at times somewhat irascible." She lived to the age of 87, a woman who, with her husband, belonged to a class that forms the "moral aristocracy of Scotland." She was buried beside her son Gilbert, in Bolton churchyard, Haddingtonshire.

In Kirkoswald churchyard the old family tombstone of the Browns, which was threatening to decay, has been carefully preserved by being inserted in a framework of red Annan sandstone. This was done by the efforts of the late Dr. Charles Rogers of Edinburgh, who inaugurated its erection by a meeting of Burns's admirers in Kirkoswald village, at which I had the pleasure of taking an humble part. The inscription on the tombstone runs thus:—"Here lyes the corps of John Broun in Lyttletoun, who died March 3, 1724, aged 50 (*the Poet's great-grandfather*), and Janet M'Grean, his spouse, who died March 28, 1738, aged 60 (*the Poet's great-grandmother*), and Agnes Renie, who died May, 1742, aged 34 (*the Poet's grandmother: she died of consumption*), and Margaret Blain, who died June, 1751, aged 36, spouses to Gilbert Broun in Craigenton (*the Poet's grandfather*), and Agnes Stivr, who died 1748 (*the third wife*); also James Broun in Riddlestoun, who died June 29, 1780, aged 65 years." On the top, but now concealed by the new stone—"Gilbert Broun died 31 Oct., 1774, aged 66." And on the back—"Erected by John and Gilbert Brouns, and Robert, and John, and Samuel (*the Poet's uncle, with whom he lodged*), and William, and John Broun in Roan, and Janet Banahatin, his spouse."

From this somewhat confused account we gather that the Poet's grandfather was thrice married, Agnes Brown being the eldest child by his first wife. A touching remark of hers on her deathbed is recorded—"Are you not sorry to leave your husband and children?" "No; I leave my children to the care of God, and Gilbert will soon get another wife;" which he did—*two of them!*

Another link which binds Burns to Carrick is the fact that, in his seventeenth year, he attended for some months in the summer the Parish School of Kirkoswald, at that time taught by Mr. Hugh Rodger, a noted teacher of mathematics in his day. While attending school he lodged with his uncle Samuel at the farm-house of Ballochneil, about a mile from the village, although the steading is now removed. The road that the youthful poet would take every morning lay at that time on the other side of Ballochneil burn from the side on which the road now lies, an ancient bridge on Minibae farm showing the place where it branched off. Along that road then we may fancy the young student of mathematics passing daily, morning and evening, while he pondered the mysteries of sines and co-sines, tangents and co-tangents, and all the dark language of that abstruse science.

The Parish School of Kirkoswald had formerly been, as customary, a mere "lean-to," built as an addition to the Parish Church; but in course of time this had been removed, and the heritors had rented the ground-floor of a two-storey house in the village for the use of the schoolmaster. This house is still standing, and forms the second from the corner, right opposite to the entrance into the churchyard. In all probability it would not accommodate above 50 or 60 scholars. The playground would be the street outside, although a strip of ascending ground behind was used as an appropriate place for exercising the elder scholars in the use of the sextant and theodolite. It was when engaged in taking an observation of the sun in this plot that the Poet fell over head and ears in love with Peggy Thomson, who lived next door, the result of which was to put a stop for the time to his studies in mathematics.

But the scene which stands out for special notice in those school days is the following. At Mr. Rodger's school there were two leading lads in Burns's day—one being himself, and the other Willie Niven of Maybole, three years his junior. Burns and Niven were not content with their ordinary school studies, but must let their souls soar in the fair fields of literature and high discussion. They were accustomed, we are told, to start subjects of debate among themselves, and exercise their gifts of oratory upon one another. But Mr. Rodger, in his sublime mathematics, has a contempt for this literary talk, and must show it. He accordingly takes the opportunity of alluding to the matter in school, saying how absurd it was for boys of their standing to attempt such things. Niven at once spoke up, and said that they were only wishing to improve their minds, and had thought that he should have rather praised them than otherwise. Rodger sneered at their discussions, and asked them what they debated about. Niven replied that they had generally a new subject every day, but the one they had last was—Whether a great General or a respectable Merchant was the more valuable member of society? The Dominie laughed, and said there could be no doubt about that question. "Well," said Burns, springing up, "if you will take one side, I shall take the other, and we will discuss it before the school." In an evil moment the teacher consented, and led off with a eulogium on the fighting man, to which Burns replied forcibly on behalf of the shopkeeper. The teacher answered, but without success. His hand was observed to shake, his voice trembled, and he dismissed the school in a state of vexation. Of course we outsiders have a certain wicked pleasure in the triumph of the boys, but it shows clearly how early Burns acquired that gift of speech which made him the best talker in the countryside of his day, and enabled him, when he went to Edinburgh, to hold his own with the cleverest that could be brought against him.

In addition to these links binding Burns to our district, we have the Tam o' Shanter and Souter Johnnie of that matchless poem, in which, as my old Professor remarked, "there is not a single superfluous word nor a single weak line." We have also the Bruce,

" Who ruled the martial ranks,
And shook his Carrick spear ;"

and Agnes Fleming, who lived

" Behind yon hills where Stinchar flows ;"

and, more especially, the William Niven aforesaid, his old schoolfellow, who used to take Burns home with him when the school week was over, that he might hold high discussion with his father, the Bailie, in that house in High Street where Dr. Girvan now keeps his shop, till Monday morning summoned them to school again. The entrance into the house then, as at present, was through the close at the side, now numbered 66. In after years Burns visited his schoolfellow at Maybole to revive old memories, and receive certain moneys which Niven had obtained by the sale of his poems, of which visit an extant letter of the Poet's to Niven gives a characteristic glimpse.

[R. LAWSON, Maybole.]



R E V I E W S.

ROBERT BURNS AND THE MEDICAL PROFESSION. By WM. FINDLAY, M.D. ("George Umber"), Author of "In My City Garden," and "Ayrshire Idylls." With Thirteen Full-Page Portraits. Paisley: ALEX. GARDNER.

UNDER the above title Dr. Findlay presents us with an authentic record of all the available facts in the lives of the medical men with whom Burns was thrown into contact during his earthly pilgrimage; and, in addition, short sketches are given of the literary labours of those professors of the healing art who have since worshipped at the Burns shrine. The first idea of the book was suggested to Dr. Findlay by a chance toast at a Burns celebration, which he subsequently elaborated by the most painstaking inquiries till it reached the dimensions of the respectable octavo before us. Burns's instinctive predilection for the society of all the educated and professional men who came within the sphere of his acquaintance is well known. Wherever he went, the magnetic influence of his personality drew around him the liberal-minded and broad-souled from all classes of society. Dr. Findlay concerns himself with one class alone, leaving untouched the wider field of the Poet's relations with the host of ministers, lawyers, schoolmasters, and authors, whose names crop up at every point of his career. To have attempted an account of the whole on the exhaustive lines which characterise the part accomplished would have necessitated several volumes, but the selected task is so excellently performed that we hope Dr. Findlay will see his way at some future date to give us the full complement of what he has so very well begun.

As was to be expected, the Burns medical portrait gallery contains representations of only "good men and true," who recognised the genius of the Poet long before he took possession of the world, and who remained loyal and steadfast to his memory, through good and evil report, after his death. First, in point of time, comes Dr. Mackenzie, of Mauchline, whose portrait faces the title of the book—a keen, open, good-humoured Scottish countenance—who attended Burns's father in his last illness, was *accoucheur* to Jean in the early troublous days, and who seemed to share the Poet's esteem equally with Gavin Hamilton, though he does not bulk so largely in his writings as the latter. A suggestive glimpse of the close intimacy of the trio is afforded by the episode which inspired "The Calf," the first complete copy of which was despatched to the worthy doctor on the evening of the identical Sunday on which it was composed, and at an hour when it is highly probable he was in attendance upon Jean at the birth of the first twins. Living in Mauchline at the same time was young Candlish, who married one of the "six belles," afterwards turned his attention to medicine, and became the father of Dr. Candlish of Free Church fame. In the limits of a review article, it is, of course, impossible to do more than summarise the contents of the volume; we would therefore refer our readers to the book itself for much interesting information which has hitherto lain entombed in forgotten books or remained hidden in the mine of tradition till brought to light by the researches of Dr. Findlay. Short sketches, containing as much detail as the authentic record can supply, are given of Dr. Gregory, Dr. Alexander Wood, Dr. Moore, Dr. Maxwell, Dr. Mundell, Dr. Adair, Dr. Thomson, and Dr. Currie; and whenever a reliable portrait has been discovered, an excellent engraving of it accompanies the letterpress. In addition to these

contemporaries, the work, as we have already said, very aptly includes references, more or less extended, to such Burns enthusiasts as Dr. Moir ("Delta"), Dr. John Brown ("Rab and his Frien's"), Dr. Wendell Holmes, Dr. Francis Adams, and others, the chapter entitled "A Decade of Medical Burnsites" being most appropriately headed by the veteran, Dr. James Adams of Glasgow, than whom a more competent and accomplished Burns authority does not exist at the present day, as the past numbers of the "Chronicle" amply testify.

In view of the recent essay of Mr. Henley, and the light thrown upon that remarkable production by the publication of the Earnock MSS., the interest, as a matter of course, centres in Dr. Maxwell and Dr. Currie. In his treatment of Currie's Life, Dr. Findlay adds further testimony to the fact that the general opinion is gradually but surely settling down into the firm conviction that the "well-meaning doctor's" biography is discredited on several important points on account of exaggerations and unsubstantiated statements. Gilbert Burns's disclaimer in the Earnock MSS. throws the responsibility of these upon John Syme and Dr. Maxwell, if Dr. Currie is correct in indicating the sources of his information, for he himself knew next to nothing about the personality of Burns. Mr. Henley has made the most of the apocryphal testimony of the first-named, for the which Dr. Findlay thus takes him to task.

"As an instance of Syme's loose and unreliable style, he is said to have declared that Burns was 'burnt to a cinder' ere Death took him; and Henley, who is unscrupulous enough to lay hold on anything that will work into his unseemly picture of the Poet, has seized upon this phrase to demonstrate that Burns had damaged himself with drink. Now, this is not a scientific phrase; it is simply a figure of speech; and if it means anything definite at all, it might as well signify that, as a spiritual force, he was burnt out—that he had lived too fast in an intellectual and emotional sense, and so was an extinct force. It is going out of any unbiassed critic's way to interpret the words as conveying—from a layman, too—the idea of atrophy of certain internal organs through the burning effects of alcohol."

If it is necessary to treat gutter-gossip of this kind in a serious way, Dr. Findlay's reply may be taken as a type of what we commit ourselves to. Better to pass it by, as Mr. Henley does the testimony of Findlater and Gray, but for stronger reasons than that it does not dovetail into our prejudices nor harmonise with the object we have in view. Our author is much more to the point in dealing with a man like Henley when he sets down the following:—

"Perhaps Currie should have known, as a student of human nature and man of the world, that there is a disposition, even among well-meaning friends, to exaggerate the drinking propensities of a man of genius as conferring an additional glorification to the sum of his achievements, just as vulgar people, to whom the wonderful and marvellous appeal strongly, are prone to associate extraordinary cleverness with excessive drunkenness, thereby giving it the character of a dogma of everyday life."

Without a doubt much of the mischievous gossip which was set afloat after the death of Burns has its root and origin in this "dogma of everyday life," which is just the palpable form of that element in our unregenerate common humanity which seeks to drag everything down to its own level.

We cannot give too much praise to the portraits which embellish the volume which, we believe, are the work of Dr. Findlay's son, a young man who has already made his mark among our rising Glasgow artists. They are uniformly excellent, and had Dr. Findlay given us nothing else he would have deserved the thanks of every Burns admirer. The book is got up in Mr. Gardner's usual exceptional style in type and binding. The first edition, we are informed, has been almost absorbed by the subscribers, but we trust that arrangements will be made for the early issue of a second, as much on account of the book's intrinsic merits as on the widespread reputation of its accomplished and many-sided author, whose graceful essays on other subjects have won for him the title of "the Scottish Charles Lamb."

MOTTO—"A MAN'S A MAN FOR A' THAT."

THE BURNS FEDERATION

INSTITUTED 1885.

Hon. President—The Right Hon. The EARL OF ROSEBERY, K.G., K.T.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

President—PETER STURROCK, Esq., of Baltersan, Kilmarnock.

Vice-President—Rev. WILLIAM DUNNETT, M.A., Kilmarnock.

Honorary Secretary—Captain DAVID SNEDDON, Kilmarnock.

Honorary Treasurer—JOSEPH BROCKIE, Royal Bank, Kilmarnock.

Editor, "Annual Burns Chronicle"—D. M'NAUGHT, Esq., J.P., Kilmaurs.

Members (Kilmarnock)—Provost MACKAY; JOHN BAIRD, J.P., London Road; GEORGE DUNLOP, *Standard* Office; J. B. WILSON, J.P., London Road; JOHN NEWLANDS, Portland Street; THOMAS AMOS, M.A., The Academy; DAVID MURRAY, M.A., B.Sc.; JOHN KERR, B.L., John Finnie Street. (*Glasgow*)—Dr. WILLIAM FINDLAY, 19 Westercraigs, Dennistoun; JAMES ADAMS, M.D., F.F.P.S.G., 10 Queen's Crescent; WILLIAM MARTIN, 116 St. Vincent Street; WILLIAM WALLACE, *Herald* Office; Dr. A. PATTERSON, 22 India Street; ANDREW GIBSON, 14 Cliftonville Avenue, Belfast.

OBJECTS OF THE FEDERATION.

1. To strengthen and consolidate the bond of fellowship presently existing amongst the members of Burns Clubs, and kindred societies, by universal affiliation.
2. To superintend the publication of works relating to Burns.
3. To acquire a fund for the purchase and preservation of Holograph Manuscripts and other Relics connected with the Life and Works of the Poet, and for other purposes of a like nature, as the Executive Council may determine.

RULES.

1. The headquarters of the Federation shall be at Kilmarnock, the town in which the Federation was inaugurated and carried to a practical issue, and which contains the only properly organised Burns Museum and Library in the United Kingdom.
2. Properly organised Burns Clubs, St. Andrew's Societies, and Kindred Associations, may be admitted to the Federation by application, in writing, to the Hon. Secretary, enclosing copy of Constitution and Rules.
3. Registration Fee, *Twenty-one Shillings*, on receipt of which the Diploma of the Federation shall be issued, after being numbered and signed by the President and Hon. Secretary.

4. Members of every Burns Club, or Kindred Association, registered by the Federation, shall be entitled to receive a pocket Diploma on payment of *One Shilling*. (*These payments are final—not annual.*)
5. The Funds of the Federation shall be vested in the Executive Council for the purposes before-mentioned.
6. The Executive Council shall consist of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Federation, the President, Vice-President, and Secretary of each Affiliated Club, and other gentlemen of eminence nominated by the Executive.
7. A meeting of the Executive Council shall be held annually, at such place as may be agreed upon at the previous Annual Meeting, when reports of the year's transactions shall be submitted by the Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer.

BENEFITS.

1. Registered Clubs are supplied free with copies of newspapers, etc., containing accounts of meetings, demonstrations, etc., organised, conducted, or attended by the Executive of the Federation, and of the Annual Meeting of the Kilmarnock Burns Club—annual exchange of fraternal greetings on the Anniversary of the Poet's natal day.
2. Members of Registered Clubs who have provided themselves with Pocket Diplomas are entitled to attend meetings of all the Clubs on the Roll of the Federation, they being subject to the rules of the Club visited, but having no voice in its management, unless admitted a member, according to local form.
3. Members are entitled to be supplied, through the Secretaries of their respective Clubs, with copies of all works published by the Federation, at a discount of 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ per cent.

BOOKS PUBLISHED BY THE FEDERATION TO BE HAD ON APPLICATION TO HON. SECRETARY.

BURNS HOLOGRAPH MANUSCRIPTS, in the Kilmarnock Monument Museum, with Notes. Edited by David Sneddon, Hon. Secretary Burns Federation. Price, 1s 6d. Cloth, with Gilt Title. Kilmarnock: D. Brown & Co. 1889.

BURNS CHRONICLE AND CLUB DIRECTORY.

VOL. I. Edited by John Muir. Price, 1s. Stout paper covers. Kilmarnock: D. Brown & Co. 1892.

VOL. II. Edited by D. M'Naught. Price, 1s 6d. Stout paper covers. Kilmarnock: D. Brown & Co. 1893.

VOL. III. Edited by D. M'Naught. Price, 1s 6d. Stout paper covers. Kilmarnock: D. Brown & Co. 1894.

VOL. IV. Edited by D. M'Naught. Price, 1s 6d. Stout paper covers. Kilmarnock: D. Brown & Co. 1895.

VOL. V. Edited by D. M'Naught. Price, 1s 6d. Stout paper covers. Glasgow: John Horn. 1896.

VOL. VI. Edited by D. M'Naught. Price, 1s 6d. Stout paper covers. Glasgow: John Horn. 1897.

VOL. VII. Edited by D. M'Naught. Price, 1s 6d. Stout paper covers. Glasgow: John Horn. 1898.

VOL. VIII. Edited by D. M'Naught. Price, 1s 6d. Stout paper covers. Glasgow: John Horn, 1899.

A few copies of the back vols. may still be had on application to the Hon. Secretary. Increased prices are charged when vols. are out of print.

ANNUAL MEETING OF BURNS FEDERATION.

LOUDOUN ARMS HOTEL,
MAUCHLINE, 30TH JULY, 1898.

THE annual general meeting of the Burns Federation was held here to-day, at 12.30.

Present—Provost Mackay, Kilmarnock (presiding); D. M'Naught, J.P., editor *Burns Chronicle*; Captain D. Sneddon, *secretary*; Joseph Brockie, *treasurer*; George Dunlop, *Kilmarnock Standard*, Dr. William Findlay (members of the Executive Council), and deputations from the following Clubs:—No. 0, Kilmarnock; No. 2, Alexandria; No. 6, Alloa; No. 14, Dundee; No. 21, Greenock; No. 27, Springburn; No. 49, Bridgeton; No. 57, Thornliebank; No. 74, Glasgow Mauchline Society; No. 86, "The Winsome Willie," Cumnock; No. 87, Campsie; No. 89, Sunderland; No. 92, Kilbowie; No. 94, Uphall; No. 97, "Bellfield," Kilmarnock; No. 101, Motherwell.

The hon. secretary read the minutes of the annual meeting, held at Greenock on the 3rd June, 1897, which were unanimously approved of.

Letters of apology for unavoidable absence were intimated from Peter Sturrock, president; Dr. A. Patterson, and John Newlands, of the Executive Council; and Marcus Bain, of the Glasgow Mauchline Society; also from the officials of the following Clubs:—No. 3, "Tam o' Shanter," Glasgow; No. 10, Dumbarton; No. 15, Belfast; No. 47, "St. Rollox," Glasgow; No. 48, Paisley; No. 53, "Fairfield," Govan; No. 54, "St. Johnston's," Perth; No. 58, Kirkcaldy; No. 72, Partick; No. 73, Lenzie; No. 75, Kirn; No. 77, "Gleniffer," Paisley; No. 90, Garelochhead; No. 102, "Border," Carlisle.

The hon. secretary read an excerpt from the minutes of the "Jolly Beggars Burns Club," Mauchline, which was fully considered, and a reply unanimously approved of, which the hon. secretary was instructed to forward.

The financial statement, submitted by the hon. treasurer, was unanimously approved of, showing a credit balance of £85 12s 8d.

Mr. M'Naught spoke at some length on the work of the *Burns Chronicle*, and the prospects of issuing Vol. VIII. at the beginning of January, 1899. The Clubs were again requested to urge each member to subscribe for the book, and it was resolved to continue the publication for another year.

On the motion of Dr. William Findlay, Glasgow, it was unanimously agreed to adopt the following resolution:—"That this meeting appoint a small committee to consider the Rules of the Federation. In particular, it is expedient, at this stage of the Federation's history, that Rule 6, dealing with the composition of the Executive Council, should be re-framed, on the principle of annual election, with a view not only to secure greater interest in the work of the Federation, but to promote a healthier life among its members." The committee to consist of the following gentlemen:—The present secretary, treasurer, and editor, along with Messrs. George Dunlop

and Thomas Amos, M.A., Kilmarnock; Dr. Findlay, Glasgow; Mr. Deas, Greenock; Mr. Gibson, Dundee; with Provost Mackay as convener.

On the motion of Mr. William Freeland, Glasgow, it was also unanimously agreed to adopt the following resolution:—"That the Burns Federation take into consideration the question of establishing in one or other of the Scottish Universities a Lectureship for the study of the Scottish language, and of Scottish literature and history." The above-named committee were empowered to consider and deal with the resolution.

On the motion of the representative of the Kilbowie "Jolly Beggars" Club, the meeting gave the same committee power to consider the advisability of issuing an annual calendar among the members.

Provost Mackay then feelingly referred to the great loss the Federation had sustained by the death, on 11th September, 1897, of Mr. Colin Rae Brown, one of the founders and vice-president of the Federation. It was unanimously resolved that a message of sympathy and condolence be forwarded to the widow and family of the deceased.

On the motion of the President, it was agreed to hold the next annual meeting at Dumfries.

This being all the business, the meeting was closed after votes of thanks had been awarded to the chairman, editor, and hon. secretary.

At the conclusion of the business the members of the Federation were joined by the ladies and a number of friends from Glasgow and Edinburgh, when dinner was served by "Mine Host" of the Loudoun Arms. Provost Mackay presided, and Mr. Hamilton Marr, Mauchline, acted as croupier.

After the loyal toasts, Mr. J. Leiper Gemmill, of the Glasgow Mauchline Society, proposed, in eloquent terms, "The Burns Federation."

The Chairman proposed "The Glasgow Mauchline Society," which was replied to by Mr. Hamilton Marr.

The party afterwards had a most enjoyable drive round the district, first visiting the recently-erected National Burns Memorial Tower and Cottage Homes, under the guidance of Mr. J. Leiper Gemmill and Mr. Killin, treasurer of the Memorial Fund. After signing the visitors' book, the whole party were photographed in front of the Tower by Messrs. M'Clure & Macdonald, Glasgow. The drive was continued *via* Moss-giel, Tarbolton, Montgomerie, Barskimming (where tea was served on the banks of the Ayr), and Ballochmyle.

The day's proceedings were of a most enjoyable nature. The weather was ideally fine, the company was a happy and hearty one, the scenery was of the most beautiful kind, and the whole outing was of such a delightful character that it will be long remembered by all who were privileged to take part in it.

D. SNEDDON, Hon. Secretary.



ALPHABETICAL LIST OF FEDERATED CLUBS.

No. 40—Aberdeen
 84—Abington
 23—Adelaide
 20—Airdrie
 2—Alexandria
 6—Alloa
 82—Arbroath
 19—Auckland

 99—Barlinnie
 12—Barrow-in-Furness
 64—Beith
 15—Belfast
 30—Blackburn
 95—Bolton
 29—Bolton Juniors
 76—Brechin
 106—Broxburn—Rosebery

 4—Callander
 87—Campsie
 71—Carlisle
 102—Carlisle—Border
 81—Carstairs Junction
 11—Chesterfield
 51—Chicago
 93—Clydebank
 103—Coalburn—Rosebery
 79—Corstorphine
 42—Crieff
 66—Crossgates
 45—Cumnock
 86—Cumnock—The Winsome Willie
 62—Cupar

 35—Dalry
 55—Derby
 37—Dollar
 10—Dumbarton
 52—Dumfries—Mechanics
 104—Dumfries—Oak

No. 14—Dundee
 69—Dunedin
 80—Dunoon (Cowal)
 85—Dunfermline—United

 5—Earlston
 22—Edinburgh

 44—Forfar

 90—Garelochhead
 3—Glasgow—Tam o' Shanter
 7 ,, Thistle
 9 ,, Royalty
 24 ,, Bank
 27 ,, Springburn
 33 ,, Haggis
 34 ,, Carrick
 36 ,, Rosebery
 38 ,, Jolly Beggars
 39 ,, St. David's
 41 ,, Dennistoun
 43 ,, Northern
 47 ,, St. Rollox
 49 ,, Bridgeton
 61 ,, Glencairn
 63 ,, Mossgiel
 67 ,, Carlton
 68 ,, Sandyford
 70 ,, St. Rollox Jolly
 Beggars
 74 ,, Mauchline
 Society
 78 ,, Ardgowan
 83 ,, Co-operative
 88 ,, Caledonian
 107 ,, Hutchesontown
 59—Gourock—Jolly Beggars
 53—Govan—Fairfield
 21—Greenock

 100—Hamilton—Mossgiel

No. 96—Jedburgh

92—Kilbowie

o—Kilmarnock

97 „ Bellfield

58—Kirkcaldy

75—Kirn

98—Lanark

73—Lenzie

18—Liverpool

1—London

28—Mauchline — The Jolly
Beggars

8—Morpeth (dormant)

101—Motherwell

56—Muirkirk—Lapraik

65—Musselburgh

32—Newark

No. 17—Nottingham (dormant)

48—Paisley

77—Paisley—Gleniffer

72—Partick

26—Perth

54—Perth—St. Johnstone

31—San Francisco

91—Shettleston

13—St. Andrews

50—Stirling

89—Sunderland

16—Sydney

57—Thornliebank

94—Uphall

46—Warwickshire

25—Winnipeg

60—Wolverhampton



DIRECTORY
OF
BURNS CLUBS AND SCOTTISH SOCIETIES
ON THE
ROLL OF THE BURNS FEDERATION, 1899.

- No. 0. KILMARNOCK Burns Club. Instituted 1808. Federated 1885. President, G. A. Innes, F.E.I.S., Hamilton School, Kilmarnock; Vice-President, R. D. Tannahill, South Hamilton Street, Kilmarnock; Secretary and Treasurer, Thomas Amos, M.A., Glencairn School, Kilmarnock. 150 members.
- No. 1. LONDON Burns Club. Instituted 1868. Federated 1885. President, Dr. Leslie Ogilvie, 46 Welbeck Street, W.; Vice-President, W. H. Pitman, C.C., 35 Aberdare Gardens, West Hampstead; Secretary and Treasurer, W. C. Daniels, 37 Chardmore Road, Stoke-Newington, N. 128 members.
- No. 2. ALEXANDRIA Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1885. President, John Sharpe, Bonhill; Vice-President, James M'Farlane, Linnbrane Terrace; Treasurer, David Walker, 109 Middleton Street; Secretary, Duncan Carswell, Linnbrane Terrace; Committee, Donald Campbell, William Carlisle, Robert M'Gown, John M'Gown, William Duncan, Hugh Howie. 30 members.
- No. 3. GLASGOW Tam o' Shanter Club. Instituted 1880. Federated 1885. President, G. S. Galt, 239 Langside Road; Vice-President, David Milne, 124 Bothwell Street; Secretary, James Angus, 121 West George Street.
- No. 4. CALLANDER Burns Club. Instituted 1877. Federated 1885. President, William Russell; Secretary, James S. Anderson, Callander.
- No. 5. ERCILDOUNE Burns Club. Instituted 24th January, 1885. Federated 26th November, 1885. President, William Kerr, Earlston; Vice-Presidents, T. Murdison and A. Nichol, Earlston; Secretary and Treasurer, Archibald Black, Aitchison's Place, Earlston; Committee, Messrs. Grieve, Wallace, Bone, Aitchison, Cameron, Douglas, Stafford, Miles, Fox, Noble, Wight, Monroe, Blackadder, and Huggans. 100 members.
- No. 6. ALLOA Burns Club. Federated 1885. President, George B. M'Murtrie, Ochil Street; Vice-Presidents, Alexander Reid, John Simpson, and George Burton; Treasurer, William Bringan, Coalgate; Secretary, David Hughes, Mar Place, Alloa. 30 members.
- No. 7. GLASGOW Thistle Burns Club. Instituted 10th March, 1882. Federated 1885. President, James Mearchant, 136 Govan Street, S.S.; Vice-President, Alexander Rennie, 41 Cumberland Street, S.S.; Treasurer, A. Kerr, 24 Thistle Street, S.S.; Secretary, John Peters, 150 Main Street, Anderston; Committee, R. Crockart, D. Douglas, D. Liddell, John Ffame. Limited to 40 members.

- No. 8. MORPETH AND DISTRICT Burns Club (dormant). Last Secretary, John Dobson, Oldgate Street, Morpeth.
- No. 9. GLASGOW Royalty Burns Club. Instituted 1882. Federated 1885. President, James M'Culloch; Vice-President, George Murray; Secretary and Treasurer, Henry Rodie, 143 West Nile Street, Glasgow; Committee, D. Dewar, P. P. Wills, Wm. Goudie, A. B. M'Bride, J. Little, Jas. Duthie. Meeting place, White's, Gordon Street. 65 members.
- No. 10. DUMBARTON Burns Club. Instituted 1859. Federated 1886. President, John Macphie, Glen Mar; Senior Vice-President, Major Buchanan, Clarkhill; Junior Vice-President, Dean of Guild Thomson, Huntingtower; Secretary and Treasurer, James M'Gilchrist, Gasworks, Dumbarton; Committee, Provost Garvie, Master of Works Kirk, Councillors MacFarlan, Young, and Dr. M'Lachlan, ex-Bailie MacLeod, ex-Dean of Guild Allan, Andrew Watson, Walter Scott, William Mayer. 36 members.
- No. 11. CHESTERFIELD Burns Society. President, Robert Howie, Ashgate Road; Vice-Presidents, D. S. Anderson, West Park; Dr. Goodfellow, Old Road, Brompton; Hon. Secretary, George Edward Drennan, 77 Salter Gate, Chesterfield, Derbyshire.
- No. 12. BARROW-IN-FURNESS Burns Club. Federated in 1886. President, Samuel Boyle; Secretary, Alexander M'Naught, 4 Ramsden Square, Barrow-in-Furness.
- No. 13. ST. ANDREWS Burns Club. Instituted 1869. Federated 1886. President, Bailie Murray; Vice-President, James Bain; Secretary and Treasurer, William Brown, 116 South Street, St. Andrews. 110 members. Rooms, Royal Hotel. Poet Laureate, George Bruce.
- No. 14. DUNDEE Burns Club. Instituted 1860. Hon. President, Sir John Leng, M.P.; President, Thomas Bennett; Vice-President, R. H. Robertson; Secretary, Edward Peill; Treasurer and Librarian, John Beat; Curator, John A. Purves; Committee, A. G. Macpherson, Hugh Ross, James Binny. Club Rooms, 36 Nethergate. 60 members.
- No. 15. BELFAST Burns Club. Instituted 1872. Federated 1886. President, W. H. Anderson, East Hillbrook, Holywood; Vice-President, Dr. Philip, 98 Great Victoria Street, Belfast; Secretary and Treasurer, James L. Russell, 21 Moyola Street, Belfast; Committee, James Jenkins, James Gemmell, A. W. Stewart, P. Galloway, T. E. Carlisle, William Campbell, A. M'Cowatt. 64 members.
- No. 16. SYDNEY Burns Club. Instituted 1880. Federated in 1886. President, Alex. Kethel, J.P.; Vice-Presidents, Jas. Muir and Thos. Lamond; Treasurer, W. W. Bain; Secretary, W. Telfer, School of Arts, Pitt Street, Sydney, N.S.W. 400 members.
- No. 17. NOTTINGHAM Scottish Society Burns Club (dormant). Federated in 1886. Last Secretary, D. Stuart Hepburn, 9 Wellington Circus, Nottingham.
- No. 18. LIVERPOOL Burns Club. Instituted 1877. Federated 1886. President, Hugh M'Whinnie, 30 Hampstead Road, Elm Park, Liverpool; Vice-President, Andrew Morton, 48 Trinity Road, Bootle; Secretary and Treasurer, Alexander Smith, 104 Salisbury Road, Wavertree. 70 members.
- No. 19. AUCKLAND Burns Club and Literary Society. Instituted 1884. Federated in 1886. President, James Stewart, C.E., Shortland Street, Auckland; Vice-Presidents, George Fowlds, James M'Farlane, A. Moncur; Treasurer, Charles Dunn, c/o

Messrs. Brown, Barrett & Co.; Secretary, John Horne, Wellington Street; Committee, Alex. Wright, Arthur Dunn, William Moncur, Earnest Jones, William Stewart.

No. 20. AIRDRIE Burns Club. Instituted 1885. Federated in 1886. President, William Sutherland; Vice-President, James Ramsay; Treasurer, David Johnstone; Secretary, James Sommerville, Royal Hotel, Airdrie. 55 members.

No. 21. GREENOCK Burns Club. Instituted 1802. Federated 1885. Honorary President, Sir Thos. Sutherland, K.C.M.G., LL.D., M.P.; President, Robert Caird, Esplanade; Vice-Presidents, D. M'Innes, Charing Cross, Greenock, and Anderson Rodger, Port-Glasgow; Treasurer, A. T. Anderson, 21 Newton Street; Secretaries, J. B. Morison, 55 Forsyth Street, and C. N. Morison, 12 Lyle Street; Librarian, J. M. Farquhar, 10 Ardgowan Square. Club room (always open), '36 Nicolson Street; Janitor, Alexander Stevens. 300 members.

No. 22. EDINBURGH Burns Club. Instituted 1858. Federated in 1886. President, Archibald Munro, M.A.; Vice-President, C. Martin Hardie, R.S.A.; Chaplain, Rev. A. Wallace Williamson, M.A.; Bard, Thomas Hepburn; Secretary, George A. Munro, S.S.C., 37 Castle Street, Edinburgh; Treasurer, J. A. Trevelyan Sturrock, S.S.C., 93 George Street, Edinburgh; Committee, Councillor Cranston, John Smart, R.S.A., Thomas Carmichael, James Tullo, James Grieve, Thomas Hepburn, Andrew Isles, J. M. Henry, Henry Kirkwood, James Ewing, Thomas Bonnar, Archibald Orrock, Alexander Anderson, W. Ivison Macadam, James Masterton, Peter L. Henderson, Dr. Kennedy Melville, Geo. T. Thin, Arch. Menzies, H. Erskine.

No. 23. ADELAIDE South Australian Caledonian Society. Instituted 1881. Federated in 1886. Chief, John Wyles, J.P., Pirie Street, Adelaide; Chieftain, T. W. Fleming, Waymouth Street, Adelaide; Chieftain, Alex. Dowie, Rundle Street, Adelaide; Treasurer, D. W. Gray, Grenfell Street, Adelaide; Secretary, H. G. M'Kittrick; Society's Office Address, 70 Grenfell Street, Adelaide, S.A.; Hon. Auditors, D. Nicholson and A. Ronald Scott; Committee, D. W. Melvin, R. H. Crawford, Philip Tod, John Drummond, T. H. Smeaton, George Fowler Stewart, James Murray. Branches of the S.A. Caledonian Society established in Port Adelaide, Gawler, Mount Gambier, Port Augusta, Millicent, Port Pirie.

No. 24. GLASGOW Bank Burns Club. Instituted 1844. Federated in 1886. President, William Bowie, 220 Buchanan Street; Vice-President, Robert Johnston, Spoutmouth; Treasurer, Alex. Gray, 97 Great Hamilton Street; Secretary, John Gentle, 116 Gallowgate, Glasgow. 150 members.

No. 25. WINNIPEG St. Andrew's Society. Federated in 1886. Chief, W. A. Dunbar; Secretary, David Philip, Government Buildings, Winnipeg, Man. Rooms, Unity Hall, Hain Street.

No. 26. PERTH Burns Club. Instituted 1873. Federated on 19th June, 1886. President, William Whitelaw, M.P. for Perth, Huntingtower Park, by Perth; Vice-President, Dr. Holmes Morrison, Marshall Place; Treasurer, William Stevenson, Balhousie Villas; Secretary, James Harper, 68 St. John Street, Perth. Meet in Salutation Hotel, Perth. 80 members.

No. 27. GLASGOW Springburn Burns Club. Federated 1886. President, Thos. D. Wilson, 4 Bellvue Terrace; Vice-President, Dr. W. A. Mason; Secretary, William M'Bain, Janefield Cottage, Springburn, Glasgow; Committee, John Flint, John Young, Alex. Forbes, Thomas Forsyth, Robert Kirkland, Wm. T. Muir. 37 members.

- No. 28. The JOLLY BEGGARS Burns Club, Mauchline.
- No. 29. BOLTON Burns Club. Instituted 6th September, 1881. Federated in 1886. President, Peter Halliday, Jesmond House, Bolton; Vice-President, John Macfee, Russell Street, Bolton; Secretary and Treasurer, Chas. E. M'Nabb, 26 W. Bridge Street; Committee, Rev. T. B. Johnstone, John Watson, William M'Nabb, George Guthrie, John Boyd, John Graham, John Dickinson, George Begg. 50 members.
- No. 30. BLACKBURN Burns Club. Instituted in 1878. Federated in 1886. President, W. Ferguson, Ainsworth Street; Vice-President and Treasurer, William M'Kie, Wellington Street; Secretary, Robert M'Kie, Victoria Street, Blackburn. 20 members.
- No. 31. SAN FRANCISCO Scottish Thistle Club. Instituted 18th March, 1882. Federated 1886. Royal Chief, W. A. Dawson, Hughes' Hotel; Chieftain, Andrew Ross, 1208A Howard Street; Treasurer, John Ross, 26 Eddy Street; Recorder, George W. Paterson, 301 Guerrero Street. 250 members.
- No. 32. NEWARK Caledonian Club. Federated in 1886. President, John Huggan; Treasurer, Paul Buchanan, corner of 16th Avenue and Bergen Street; Secretary, John Hogg, Caledonian Club, Newark, New Jersey, U.S.A.
- No. 33. GLASGOW Haggis Club. Instituted 1872. Federated in 1886. President, John B. M'Naught, Stonefield Terrace, S.S.; Vice-President, Thomas Kerr, 100 Crown Street; Treasurer, Thomas Macfarlane, 90 Regent Terrace; Secretary, R. J. Cameron, 212 St. Vincent Street. Meet in Mr. M'Culloch's, Maxwell Street. 50 members (limited).
- No. 34. GLASGOW Carrick Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1859. Federated 15th January, 1887. President, D. Gordon; Treasurer, D. Norval; Secretary, John Newbigging, 25 Albert Drive, Crosshill. Meet in 62 Glassford Street, Glasgow, every Saturday, excepting the months of July and August. 40 members.
- No. 35. DALRY Burns Club. Instituted 1826. Federated in 1887. President, David Johnstone, Inspector of Schools; Vice-President, Robert Fulton, Writer; Secretary and Treasurer, Alex. Comrie, Accountant, Dalry, Ayrshire. This is the oldest known Burns Club with an unbroken record of its transactions to date. 30 members. The anniversary meeting is held on the Friday nearest 25th January.
- No. 36. GLASGOW Rosebery Burns Club. Instituted 1885. Federated in 1887. Patron, Right Hon. the Earl of Rosebery. President, Alexander Skirving, I.A., Chestnut Cottage, Langside; Vice-President, Robert Kennedy, 202 Hope Street; Treasurer, Hugh Sturdy, 39 Kilmarnock Road; Secretary, James Angus, 22 Ratho Terrace, Springburn, Glasgow; Minute Secretary, Alex. Miller, 17 Overnewton Square; Committee, James S. Fisher, J. S. Jamieson, Wm. Kennedy, James Wilson, H. P. Bayne. 148 members.
- No. 37. DOLLAR Burns Club. Instituted 14th January, 1887. Federated 29th December, 1887. President, John M'Gruther, Chapel Place; Vice-President, J. B. Green, Station Road; Treasurer, J. Fleming, Bloomfield; Secretary, John M'Gruther, Chapel Place, Dollar; Committee, Dr. Strachan, Messrs. W. G. Cruickshank, W. Smith, J. Robertson, W. G. Hunter, T. Oliphant. 50 members.

- No. 38. GLASGOW "Jolly Beggars" Burns Club. Federated in 1888. Vice-President, David Caldwell; Secretary, Jas. Gillespie, jun., 80 Gloucester Street, Glasgow.
- No. 39. GLASGOW "St. David's" Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated in 1889. President, Henry Cowan; Secretary, Alex. Porteous, 5 March Street, Strathbungo, Glasgow. Meetings held at 163 Ingram Street, Glasgow.
- No. 40. ABERDEEN Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated in 1889. President, James M'Intosh, 50 Mushit Hall.
- No. 41. DENNISTOUN Burns Club. Instituted 1886. Federated in 1889. President, Thomas Baxter; Vice-President, W. Williamson; Secretary and Treasurer, John B. M'Intosh, 300 Duke Street. Club Room, London Arms Hotel, Glasgow. 25 members.
- No. 42. CRIEFF Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1891. President, Thomas Edwards, Dalcarn; Vice-President, Bailie Williamson; Secretary and Treasurer, William Pickard, Meadow Place, Crieff; Committee, Provost Finlayson, ex-Provost Macgregor, Charles E. Colville (Town Clerk), John Philips (*Herald* Office), S. Maitland Brown (teacher). 50 members.
- No. 43. GLASGOW Northern Burns Club. Federated in 1891. President, Peter R. MacArthur, 11 Randolph Place, Mount Florida; Vice-President, John S. Hunter, 33 West Princes Street; Treasurer, John Duncanson, 90 North Frederick Street; Secretary, James Weir, 216 New City Road; Committee, James M'Lay, Mr. Machie, C. Demangeat, William Reid, A. B. Mitchell, Alex. MacLaughlan, R. W. French. 80 members.
- No. 44. FORFAR Burns Club. Instituted 1890. Federated in 1891. President, John Ferguson, Allan Bank; Vice-President, George S. Nicolson; Treasurer, Andrew Rennie; Secretary, Henry Rae, 14 Montrose Road, Forfar. 150 members.
- No. 45. CUMNOCK Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1891. President, D. A. Adamson, Solicitor, Glaisnock Street; Vice-President, Bailie John Andrew, Glaisnock Street; Secretary and Treasurer, Matthew Brownlie, Mars' Hill, Cumnock; Committee, A. B. Todd, James Muir, W. J. King, John Samson, William Wallace, Robert Bird. 70 members.
- No. 46. WARWICKSHIRE Burns Club. Instituted 1888. Federated in 1891. Treasurer and Secretary, Robert Greenfield, F.R.H.S., Ranelagh Nursery, Leamington. 70 members.
- No. 47. GLASGOW - ST. ROLLON Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1891. President, Stirling Miller, 85 Saltmarket; Vice-President, Thomas Smith, 560 New Keppochhill Road; Treasurer, Donald Crawford, 184 Castle Street; Secretary, Robert J. Carruthers, 45 Glenfield Street; Committee, William Cameron, Robert Paul, John Blackwood, John Chalmers, Gabriel Blair (Steward). 26 members.
- No. 48. PAISLEY Burns Club. Instituted 1805. Federated in 1891. President, James Ross, Fetteresso, Castlehead, Paisley; Vice-President, George H. Cockburn, 8 Buchanan Terrace, Paisley; Secretary and Treasurer, James Edward Campbell, M.A., B.L., Writer, 3 County Place, Paisley. Limited by Constitution to 40 members.
- No. 49. BRIDGETON Burns Club. Instituted 1870. Federated 1891. President, William Freeland, 34 Garturk Street, Govanhill; Vice-President, Dr. Munro, 569 Gallowgate; Treasurer, William Campbell, 32 Monteith Row; Secretary, William Cochran; Assistant Secretary, W. Stevenson Cochran, 175 West George

Street, Glasgow; Committee, Rector Menzies, J.P.; Andrew Hoy, W. S. Service, James Murray, William Armour, William Rodger, William Johnston, James Young, Robert Scott. 308 members.

- No. 50. **STIRLING Burns Club.** Federated 1891. President, Robert Whyte, Drummond Place; Vice-Presidents, Councillor Buchanan, Spittal Street, and D. B. Morris, Snowdon Place; Treasurer, J. F. Oswald, Newhouse; Secretary, Ridley Sandeman, 22 Forth Crescent, Stirling; Committee, Messrs. Craig, Walker, Philip, Thomson, Dun, Sands. 60 members.
- No. 51. **CHICAGO Caledonian Society.** Instituted 1883. Federated in 1892. Chief, Hugh Shirlaw; Chieftain, F. D. Todd; Treasurer, Angus Maclean; Secretary, Charles T. Spence, 3002 Wabash Avenue, Chicago. 197 members. Society meets 1st and 3rd Thursdays in each month in Hall, 1-85 E. Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.
- No. 52. **DUMFRIES Mechanics' Burns Club.** Instituted 1884. Federated 1892. President, G. Crichton, Troqueer Cottages, Maxwelltown; Vice-President, James Turnbull, 3 Henry Place; Secretary and Treasurer, James Anderson, 13 St. Michael Street, Dumfries; Committee, A. Cochrane, W. Ritchie, T. Paterson, G. Rock, J. Kemp, T. Ovens, D. K. Mackie. Club Room, Liver Inn, Nith Place. 50 members.
- No. 53. **FAIRFIELD Burns Club, Govan, Glasgow.** Instituted 25th January, 1886. Federated 23rd September, 1892. President, William Rankin, 12 Elder Street; Vice-President, George Sinclair, 118 Harmony Row; Treasurer, James Cunningham, 2 John Street; Secretary, William Munro, 4 Hamilton Street, Govan. 60 members.
- No. 54. **ST. JOHNSTONE Burns Club, Perth.** Instituted 1892. Federated in 1892. President, Councillor Charles Wood, Brunswick Terrace; Vice-President, Alex. Patterson, County Place Hotel; Secretary and Treasurer, Thomas Macgregor, 15 Balhousie Street; Committee, James Martin, Wm. Angus, James Rutherford, James M'Intyre, Alexander Mulholland, George Young, John Kerr.
- No. 55. **DERBY Burns Club.** Instituted 25th January, 1891. Federated in 1893. President, W. H. Cunningham; Vice-Presidents, Dr. Brown and J. M'Donald; Joint-Secretaries, George M'Lauchlan, 49 Molineux Street, and George Kelman; Treasurer, A. L. Cunningham, 54 Sadler Gate, Derby. 100 members.
- No. 56. **MUIRKIRK Lapraik Burns Club.** Instituted 1893. Federated 1893. President, Thomas Weir, Main Street; Vice-President, Richard Cunningham, Balater Lodge; Treasurer, Andrew Pringle, Glasgow Road; Secretary, Hugh Cameron, Co-operative Buildings, Muirkirk; Committee, James Young, D. Slimmon, James Samson, William Walker, D. Samson, John M'Donald. 48 members.
- No. 57. **THORNIEBANK Burns Club.** Instituted 1891. Federated 1893. President, J. L. Connor, North Park; Vice-President, Harry Wilkie, Eastwood Park, Giffnock; Treasurer, David Marshall, Campsie Terrace; Secretary, Malcolm Jamieson, Main Street, Thornliebank; Committee, Robert Scott, Walter M'Farlane, W. Graham, A. W. Paterson, W. Hutchinson, R. Dalziel, J. M'Allister, J. Ewing, D. Leggat, D. Jamieson, A. Strang, J. Whitelaw, J. C. Scobie, T. Purdon. 135 members.

- No. 58. KIRKCALDY Burns Club. Federated in 1893. President, A. B. Cooper, Douglas Street; Vice-President, Charles Robertson, 130 Links Street; Secretary, Robert Grant, Hill Street; Treasurer, John A. Millar, 2 School Wynd.
- No. 59. GOUROCK "Jolly Beggars" Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1894. President, William Steel, 21 Union Street, Greenock; Vice-President, William Wilson, Loudon Place; Treasurer, William Lee, Mather House; Secretary, James Shearer, 60 Kempock Street, Gourock; Committee, D. Malcolm, J. Ogg, Wm. Christie, R. M. Lawson, E. M'Grath. 90 members.
- No. 60. WOLVERHAMPTON Burns Club. Instituted 1891. Federated 1893. President, Thomas Graham, J.P., Tettenhall Court, Tettenhall; Vice-President, George Weir, George Street; Treasurer, Wm. Forsyth, 34 Stafford Street; Secretary, James Killin, Beechgrove, Compton Road, Wolverhampton. 84 members.
- No. 61. GLASGOW Glencairn Burns Club. Instituted 1890. President, Robert Corbet, 2 Ardgowan Terrace; Vice-President, James Jamieson, 13 Commerce Street; Treasurer, W. F. Hutchison, 220 Paisley Road, West; Joint-Secretaries, James Laing, 218 Watt Street, and John M. Picken, 375 Paisley Road, Glasgow. Meet at 375 Paisley Road. 46 members (limited to 60).
- No. 62. CUPAR Burns Club. Instituted 25th October, 1893. President, H. T. Anstruther, M.P., Gillingshill, Pittenweem, Fife; Vice-Presidents, Thomas R. Nichol, Station Agent, and Philip Sulley, County Assessor, Cupar-Fife; Treasurer, John Moore, Crossgate, Cupar-Fife; Secretary, John G. Stewart, North Union Street, Cupar-Fife. 75 members.
- No. 63. GLASGOW Mossiel Burns Club. Instituted 1893. President, J. M. Cowden; Vice-President, D. Anderson; Treasurer, R. Blair; Secretary, J. M. Blair, 186 Cumberland Street, S.S., Glasgow. 50 members.
- No. 64. BEITH Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 1893. President, D. Lapraik Smith, Arranview; Vice-President, Dr. Stewart, Eglinton Street; Treasurer, John Short, Main Street; Secretary, James S. Anderson, Craigwell, Beith; Committee, John Howie, R. Paterson, A. M'Ewan, J. Crawford, R. Crawford, J. E. Hood, James Rankin, T. Smith, R. H. Sinclair. 42 members.
- No. 65. MUSSELBURGH Burns Club. Federated 1894. President, Robert Millar, 12 Bridge Street; Vice-President, John Dobbie, 39 Dalrymple Loan; Treasurer, William Constable, Inveresk Terrace; Secretary, W. D. Husband, Levenhall, Musselburgh; Committee, Robert Bissett, John Graham, T. A. Hogg, Andrew M'Farlane, R. A. Smith, W. Walker, John M. Williamson. 150 members.
- No. 66. CROSSGATES Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated in 1894. Secretary, William Muir, Back Street, Crossgates. Meet in Crossgates Hotel. 110 members.
- No. 67. GLASGOW Carlton Burns Club. Instituted 1894. Federated 1894. President, Andrew Barclay, 14 Lorne Terrace, Maryhill; Vice-President, James G. Hendry, 9 Cumberland Street, S.S.; Treasurer, Andrew Fergus, 147 Eglinton Street, S.S.; Secretary, John F. Robertson, 9 Cumberland Street, S.S., Glasgow; Committee, Thomas Cameron, Charles Masters, Matthew F. Hill, George Stark, William Simpson, William Lean, Jos. H. Pearson, Robert Gibson, Dr. William Carr;

Director of Music, John Pryde; Bard, Carl Valti; Roll-keeper, William Crawford. 100 members.

- No. 68. GLASGOW Sandyford Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1894. President, Archibald Black; Vice-President, R. Hislop; Treasurer, Thomas C. Watson; Secretary, J. C. Brock, 58 Craigmaddie Terrace, Glasgow. 200 members.
- No. 69. DUNEDIN Burns Club. Federated in 1894. President, Dr. W. M. Stenhouse; Vice-Presidents, John B. Thomson and James Muir; Treasurer, John Scott; Secretary, William Brown. 400 members. Meetings held on the third Wednesday of every month in the Choral Hall, Dunedin, and on the 25th January, annually. The largest hall in Dunedin is filled to overflowing.
- No. 70. GLASGOW St. Rollox "Jolly Beggars" Burns Club. Instituted 1893. President, William Eyre, 77 Taylor Street; Vice-President, William M'Kay, 101 Castle Street; Treasurer, John Docherty, 21 St. Mungo Street; Secretary, Matthew Ferguson, 64 St. James' Road, Glasgow.
- No. 71. CARLISLE Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1889. Federated 1895. President, James A. Wheatley, J.P., 8 Portland Square, Carlisle; Vice-Presidents, Dr. Bira, 8 Brunswick Street; G. White, 8 Botchergate; John Sinton, 39 Cavendish Place; W. D. Todd, Stanwise; Secretary and Treasurer, David Burns, Stanwise, Carlisle; Committee, Messrs. Wm. Mather, John Jardine, Lyon, Bowman, Malcolm, Tinnerwood, Horn, Buckle. 100 members.
- No. 72. PARTICK Burns Club. Instituted 1885. Federated 1895. President, George H. G. Buchanan, 15 University Gardens Terrace; Vice-Presidents, J. C. Tyre, Rannoch Villa, Parkgrove, and Provost Wood, Woodlands, Partickhill; Secretary and Treasurer, William Scott Wylie, 149 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow; Committee, Matthew White, Captain James Watson, William M'Allister, A. H. Ewing, James D. Eoyack, John Scotland, James Orr, Robert Young, Councillor Sorley, William Kennedy, Major George Stout. 113 members.
- No. 73. LENZIE Burns Club. Instituted 1894. Federated 11th January, 1896. President, John Walker, Eden House; Vice-President, William Douglas, Blair Cottage; Secretary and Treasurer, James Moir, The Neuk, Lenzie; Committee, James Ferguson, James Fraser, William Gibson, J. W. Pettigrew, A. R. Whyte. Annual general meeting on 30th September. 50 members.
- No. 74. GLASGOW-MAUCHLINE Society. Instituted 1888. Federated 1895. Hon. President, Major-General Sir Claud Alexander, Bart., of Ballochmyle; President, Hamilton Marr, Hampton House, Ibrox; Vice-President, Hugh Alexander, Eastfield, Rutherglen; Treasurer, Thomas Killin, 168 West George Street, Glasgow; Joint-Secretaries, W. S. M'Millan, Wellington Chambers, Ayr, and James F. Gemmill, 16 Dargavel Avenue, Dumbreck, Glasgow; Committee, A. G. Alexander, Robert Alexander, Marcus Bain, C.C., Rev. Wilson Baird, Hugh Baird, David Davidson, John W. Davidson, J. Leiper Gemmill, Robert Hood, Bailie John Marr, William M'Millan, J. M'Adam Sharp. 60 members.
- No. 75. KIRN Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1892. Federated 10th February, 1896. President, Alex. J. M. Bennett, Strouan Lodge; Vice-President, J. M. Tuckwell, Ardblair Villas, Hunter's Quay; Treasurer, John Kesson, Adelaide Cottage; Secretary, John T. Johnston, Auld House, Kirn; Committee,

Wm. M. Shields, Henry Stenhouse, John Mackenzie, Walter Morrison, James Reid; Auditors, John Mitchell, James Cook.

- No. 76. BRECHIN Burns Club. Instituted January, 1894. Federated in 1896. President, George A. Scott, Park House; Vice-President, W. J. W. Cameron, Castleview House; Treasurer, A. J. Dakers, High Street; Secretary, Edward W. Mowat, Park Place. Committee, David Joe, William Davidson, James Bruce, John Lindsay, Alexander Smith. 230 members
- No. 77. PAISLEY-GLENIFFER Burns Club. Federated in 1896. President, J. Wallace, Braehead; Vice-President, Coun. Pollock, Garthland House; Treasurer, Wm. Bell, Newhall Villas, Glenfield; Secretary, Alex. R. Pollock, 12 Garthland Street, Paisley.
- No. 78. GLASGOW-ARDGOWAN Burns Club. Instituted 8th March, 1893. Federated 1896. President, Duncan Gilchrist, 93 Gloucester Street, S.S.; Vice-President, Alex. Wigham, 95 Broomloan Road, Govan; Treasurer, John M'Auslan, 126 Crookston Street, S.S.; Secretary, John Fairley, 160 Cathcart Street, Kingston, Glasgow; Committee, Andrew Mair, J. Brown, A. Laurie, T. Danks, and King.
- No. 79. CORSTORPHINE Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1896. President, Andrew Macdougall, Willowbank; Vice-President, Adam Shoolbread, R.N., Forrester Road; Secretary and Treasurer, William R. Murray, Inglewood, Corstorphine; Committee, John Brown, John Darge, Hugh C. Kerr, David P. Laird, Peter W. Leslie, James Matthew, Hugh Paterson, John Pretsell. 80 members.
- No. 80. DUNOON-COWAL Burns Club. Instituted 2nd March, 1896. President, John Reid Young, Garail; Vice-President, Commissioner Crosbie, Hillfoot Street; Treasurer, William Munn, Argyle Street; Secretary, Walter Grieve, James Place, Dunoon. 224 members.
- No. 81. CARSTAIRS JUNCTION Burns Club. Instituted 27th May, 1896. Federated 1896. President, John Cowper; Vice-President, George Martin; Bard, Alexander Blake; Treasurer, James Shaw; Secretary, William Neill, Burnside Cottages, Carstairs Junction; Committee, Peter Stewart, Thos. Robertson, Andrew Weir, David Ferguson, James Thomson, William Ramage. 58 members.
- No. 82. ARBROATH Burns Club. Instituted 1888. Federated 1896. President, James B. Salmond, Editor of *Arbroath Herald*; *ex officio* Hon. Vice-Presidents, Right Hon. John Morley, M.P.; Hon. Charles Maule Ramsay, Brechin Castle; Captain Sinclair, M.P.; Provost Grant, Arbroath; Hon. Fred. J. Bruce, of Seaton; Colonel Auchterloney, of The Gwynd; Charles W. Cossar, Seaforth; Fitzroy C. Fletcher, of Letham Grange; John Tullis, Glasgow; Alex. Gordon, of Ashludie; W. K. Macdonald, Town Clerk, Arbroath; Vice-President, John Russell, M.D., Hill Terrace, Arbroath; Treasurer, George R. Donald, Solicitor, 81 High Street, Arbroath; Secretary, Adam Oliver, S.S.C., Brothock Bank House, Arbroath; Committee, ex-Bailie Herald, Arbroath; J. R. W. Clark, Geo. R. Thomson, Norman M'Bain, David Littlejohn, David Fairweather, James Jack, C. Y. Myles, A. D. Lowson, R. S. Carlow, Charles Wilson. 40 members.
- No. 83. GLASGOW Co-operative Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1896. President, J. Jeffrey Hunter, 139 St. Vincent Street; Vice-President, J. C. Macgregor, 15 Iona Place, Mount Florida; Secretary and Treasurer, Robert Reyburn, 20 Great Clyde Street, Glasgow; Committee, Councillor J. Shaw-

Maxwell, James Deans (Kilmarnock), Malcolm Neil (Kilbarchan), Archd. Norval, David Smith, and James Ritchie. 84 members.

- No. 84. ABINGTON Burns Club. Instituted 1886. Federated 1896. President, James Paterson, Over Abington; Vice-President, William Clark, Glengounarfoot; Treasurer, Thomas Smail, Commercial Bank; Secretary, Robert Colthart, Arbory Villa, Abington. 87 members.
- No. 85. DUNFERMLINE United Burns Club. Federated 1896. President, Thomas Jackson; Secretary, Wm. Fraser, Free Abbey School, Dunfermline. 24 members.
- No. 86. CUMNOCK "Winsome Willie" Burns Club. Instituted 1856. Federated 1896. President, Jas. Howat, Cairn Road; Vice-President, Douglas Clark, Tower Street; Treasurer, Hugh Brown, Waterside Place; Secretary, John Young, Ayr Road, Cumnock; Committee, Robert Hyslop, Andrew Hart, Councillor W. Shand, William Hyslop, Walter M'Crindle, George Wallace, Thomas B. Hunter, James Gordon, John Pearson. 60 members.
- No. 87. CAMPSIE Burns Club. Instituted 1890. Federated 1896. President, Major R. Stirling, Union Place, Lennoxtown; Vice-President, James Simpson, Main Street (W.), Lennoxtown; Secretary and Treasurer, James O. Robertson, Main Street (W.), Lennoxtown; Committee, G. Miller, J. M'Donald, J. W. Balfour, W. M. Smith, A. Hosie, W. B. M'Farlane, W. Richmond, J. Ewing. Give £10 yearly in prizes in singing and reciting for school children. Meet monthly. 40 members.
- No. 88. GLASGOW Caledonian Burns Club. Federated 1897. President, Thomas Higgins, 428 South York Street; Vice-President, Alex. Russell, 392 Crown Street; Treasurer, George Phillips, 389 Crown Street; Secretary, John Magarry, jun., 279 Langside Road, Crosshill; Committee, John Muirhead (chairman), I. Dunn, P. M'Nally, C. Campbell, R. Wilson, J. M'Arly, A. Wright. Meeting place, George M. Nicol's, 25 Caledonia Road, S.S., every alternate Tuesday.
- No. 89. SUNDERLAND Burns Club. Instituted 1897. Federated 1897. President, Robert Falconer; Vice-President, George Mackay; Treasurer, A. R. Johnstone; Secretary, M. Neilson, 2 Rosebery Street, Sunderland. 70 members.
- No. 90. GARELOCHHEAD Burns Club. Instituted 18th November, 1895. Federated 1897. President, William M'Call Maitland, Altnabhuie; Vice-President, George C. Bennet, Lochside; Secretary and Treasurer, John Currie, Station House, Garelochhead; Committee, Thos. Stobo, D. M'Kichan, J. Connor, Dr. Burns, P. M'Farlane, A. Dawson, J. Arrol, J. Douglas. 60 members (limited to that number).
- No. 91. SHETTLESTON Burns Club. Federated 1897. President, Jas. Wilson, Bute Villa, Shettleston, near Glasgow; Secretary, James Clark, 1 York Terrace, Shettleston, near Glasgow.
- No. 92. KILBOWIE "Jolly Beggars" Burns Club. Instituted 10th August, 1897. Federated 26th August, 1897. Hon. Presidents, Hugh Tennant and Dr. J. S. Robertson; President, Thomas M'Intosh, 24 Dumbarton Road, Clydebank; Vice-President, John Brock, Dalnotter Terrace, Old Kilpatrick; Treasurer, Alex. M'Donald, 15 Janetia Terrace, Radnor Park; Secretary, Leonard Trew, 9 Gladstone Terrace, Radnor Park, Dalmuir; Committee, A. Morrison, C. Abbott, W. Paterson, A. Ross, A. Arnott, P. Candlin, J. M'Pherson, J. W. Stocks; Pipers, A. Green and D. Gray. 100 members.

- No. 93. **CLYDEBANK** Burns Club. Federated 1897. President, William Butchart, 6 Cameron Street, Clydebank; Secretary, John Murphy, c/o James M'Haffy, 2 Kilbowie Gardens, Clydebank.
- No. 94. **UPHALL** "Tam o' Shanter" Burns Club. Federated 1897. President, A. Balloch, West Houston; Vice-President, T. Sneddon, Dechmont; Treasurer, J. Brodie, jun.; Secretary, J. Gilchrist, 107 Pumpherston, Midlothian; Committee, J. Kerr, J. Webster, R. Hutchison, J. Potter, A. Banks, G. Ireland, T. Kerr. Meetings on first Monday of every month in Club-room, Mr. Brodie's Inn, Uphall. Annual Picnic in July. 105 members.
- No. 95. **BOLTON** Burns Club. Instituted 6th September, 1881. Federated 1896. President, George P. Robertson, 9 Chorley, New Road; Vice-President, John Macfie, Ridgmont, Park Road; Secretary and Treasurer, Charles E. M'Nabb, 26 Hr. Bridge Street, Bolton; Committee, Rev. Dr. Johnstone, John Watson, Wm. M'Nabb, P. Halliday, George Guthrie, J. Boyd, J. Graham, J. Dickinson, George Begg. 65 members.
- No. 96. **JEDBURGH** Burns Club. Federated 1897. President, L. G. Macdonald, St. John School, Jedburgh; Secretary, J. K. Young, Sessional School-House, Jedburgh.
- No. 97. **KILMARNOCK** Bellfield Burns Club. Instituted January, 1896. Federated 25th January, 1898. President, John Anderson, 64 Robertson Place; Vice-President, George Richmond, 12 Paxton Street; Treasurer, James Thomson, Armour Street; Secretary, Jas. Carson, 22 Gilmour Street, Kilmarnock; Committee, Wm. Duff, David Torrance, John Hutchieson. Place of meeting, Bellfield Tavern, Wellbeck Street. 32 members.
- No. 98. **LANARK** Burns Club. Federated 1898. President, ex-Provost Thomas Watson, Churchill; Secretary, Major James Swan, Kingsknowe, Lanark.
- No. 99. **GLASGOW** Barlinnie Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1893. Federated 20th January, 1898. Hon. President, Robert Ford, 142 Ingleby Drive, Dennistoun; President, William B. Buglass, 287 Onslow Drive, Dennistoun; Vice-President, John Dean, Barlinnie; Treasurer, John S. Robertson, Barlinnie; Secretary, Ernest Will, Barlinnie, Glasgow; Committee, John Bowie, John Wilson, James Stewart. 60 members.
- No. 100. **HAMILTON** Mossgiel Burns Club. Instituted 1891. Federated 1898. President, William Smith, Quarry Street; Vice-President, W. J. Halley; Treasurer, J. G. Johnstone; Secretary, Archibald Clark, jun., Spencerfield, Hamilton. 40 members.
- No. 101. **MOTHERWELL** Workmen's Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1897. Federated 5th May, 1898. President, A. R. Miller, J.P., Stanfield House, Blairhill, Coatbridge; Vice-Presidents, George Waugh, 24 Watson Street, and Commissioner James Dunlop, 95 Brandon Street; Treasurer, John King, 128 Muir Street; Secretary, Robert Brown, c/o Mr. Ross, Glebe Street, Bellshill; Committee, Thomas Stirrat, Samuel Richmond, William Donaldson, Thomas Croft, J. Blackmore, James Smith. 30 members.
- No. 102. **CARLISLE** Border Burns Club. Instituted 15th June, 1898. Federated 25th July, 1898. President, John Sinton, Cavendish Place; Vice-President, W. H. Hoodless, High Street, Wigton; Secretary and Treasurer, Andrew Raffel, 36 London Road, Carlisle; Committee, J. R. Brone, T. K. Smith, J. S. Dawson, A. Tait, jun., M. M'Arthur, W. Pogson, J. S. Atkinson, H. Adams, F. Hart, D. Peat, P. J. Paterson. 98 members.

- No. 103. **COALBURN** Rosebery Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1st August, 1898. President, John H. Odger, 9 Tinto View Terrace; Vice-President, Joseph J. Paterson, 613 Cathcart Road, Glasgow; Treasurer, John Waters, Holme Cottage; Secretary, John Woodburn, Coalburn Inn, Coalburn; Committee, James Walker, Alexander M'Innes, William Bain, Alexander Hamilton, James Stevenson, Thomas White. 50 members.
- No. 104. **DUMFRIES** Oak Burns Club. Instituted 1897. Federated 17th September, 1898. President, John Wemyss, 2 Park Terrace; Vice-President, Thomas Haining, 85 St. Michael Street; Secretary, John Connell, Crombie Terrace, Dumfries; Committee, D. W. Kerr, D. Dickson, D. Jackson, W. Brown, T. Haining, jun., R. Ritchie, William Thomson, James Beattie, J. W. Geddes. 60 members.
- No. 105. **RUTHERGLEN** "Cronie" Burns Club. Instituted 1895. Federated 1898. President, David M'Quaker, sen., 31 Greenhill Road; Vice-President, Walter Sharp, Southcroft; Treasurer, David M'Quaker, jun., 31 Greenhill Road; Secretary, William Stewart, 24 West Mair Place, Rutherglen; Committee, James Gillespie, Thomas Fisher, Robert Russell, James Aitken, William Smith. 40 members.
- No. 106. **BRONBURN** Rosebery Burns Club. Instituted 7th December, 1898. Federated 19th December, 1898. President, Thomas Lamb, Kirkhill Road; Vice-President, Robert Forsyth, West-End Cottages; Treasurer, James Mantach, 18 Shrine Place; Secretary, Joseph Miller, 47 Old Holygate, Broxburn, West Lothian; Committee, Drumond Young, Peter Anderson, James Watmore, James Sharp, Robert Leckie, Malcolm Paterson, James Lamb. 40 members.
- No. 107. **GLASGOW** Hutchesontown Burns Club. Instituted 1898. Federated 1898. President, Andrew Stewart, 570 Rutherglen Road; Vice-President, Charles Taylor; Treasurer, Stewart D. Nisbet; Secretary, Alex. M'Whirr, 12 Wolseley Street; Committee, Wm. Whyte, Jr., Alex. M. Gardner, Neil M'Vean, Alfred Wright, and Wm. Papple.



1899 REGISTER OF BURNS CLUBS

AND OTHER

SCOTTISH SOCIETIES

NOT ON THE ROLL OF THE FEDERATION.

- ALBANY (U.S.A.) Caledonian Club. Instituted 1874. Secretary, James H. Hendrie. 90 members.
- ASHINGTON Burns Club. Secretary, Alex. Duncanson, Ashington, Morpeth.
- AYR Burns Club. Hon. Secretary, George Bain, Smith's Cottage, Ayr.
- BALERNO Burns Club. Instituted 1881. Secretary, John Fairbairn, Balerno. Meeting Place, Balerno, Midlothian. 30 members.
- BARRHEAD "Tam o' Shanter" Club. Secretary, John M'Whirter, Gateside, Barrhead.
- BATHURST, N.S.W., Burns Club. Secretary, William Ferrier, Piper Street.
- BATTLE CREEK (Mich.), Clan Macdonald. Secretary, Frank Reid, 34 Irving Street, Battle Creek, Mich., U.S.A.
- BAY CITY (Mich.), Clan Forbes. Secretary, George E. Smith, 509 Eleventh Street.
- BAY CITY (Mich.), St. Andrew's Society. Secretary, G. A. Wilson, Bay City, Mich., U.S.A.
- BEDLINGTON and District Burns Club. Secretary, John Tate, Bedlington Iron Works, Northumberland.
- BELFAST Benevolent Society of St. Andrew. Instituted 1867. Secretary, John Boyd, 2 Corporation Street. 140 members.
- BELLSHILL Burns Club. Secretary, John Murdoch, Commercial Place, Bellshill.
- BERWICK-ON-TWEED Burns Club. Instituted 30th November, 1894. President, Thomas Darling, Adderston House; Vice-President, John Barr, Main Street, Tweedmouth; Treasurer, Donald Gollan, Scots Row; Secretaries, S. E. Simpson, West Street, and James Irvine, Knowehead, Tweedmouth, Berwick-on-Tweed; Committee, Dr. Mackay, P. Learmouth, G. F. Steven, G. A. Harrison, John Brough, James Stevenson, jun. 70 members.
- BRANTFORD (U.S.A.) Burns Club. Secretary, Joe J. Inglis, jun., Brantford, America.
- CALEDONIAN Society of Homestead, Pa. Instituted 1894. Secretary, William Thomson, Box 18, Homestead, Pa. 70 members.
- CAMBUSLANG Burns Club. President, Mr. Brown; Vice-President, Mr. Johnston, Oakfield Place; Secretary, A. D. Strachan, 4 Morrison Gardens, Cambuslang.
- CARDIFF Burns Club. Instituted 1891. Secretary, W. W. Pettigrew, Roath Park. 40 members.
- CLAN CAMERON (No. 7), O.S.C. Instituted 25th September, 1893. Chief, James Harvey, 394 East Avenue, Pawtucket, R.I.; Tanist, James Shaw, 72 Ashmont Street, Providence, R.I.; Treasurer, Alfred Dawson, 333 Friendship Street, Providence; Secretary, Wm. Forsyth,

293 Douglas Avenue, Providence; Financial Secretary, J. B. Craig, 268 Sayels Avenue, Providence. 50 members.

CLAN FRASER, Canada (No. 11) Order of Scottish Clans. Instituted 1884. Secretary, John Birtwell, 9 Lockbridge Street, Pawtucket. 90 members.

CLAN MACKENZIE, St. John, Canada (No. 96) Order of Scottish Clans. Instituted 1891. Secretary, Joseph A. Murdoch, 23 Carmarthen Street. 80 members.

CLAN MACKINLAY Association. Instituted 1893, at Chicago, Ills. Secretary, Main B. M'Kinlay, Paris, Ills.

COATBRIDGE Burns Club. President, Alex. Shanks, Poplar Cottage; Vice-President, George Neilson, Laird Street; Secretary and Treasurer, James Milne Boyd, writer, Coatbridge; Committee, President, Vice-President, and Secretary, with James Davidson (architect), James Jack (manager), Thomas Morton King (draper), George W. T. M'Gown (teacher). 60 members.

COWPEN, The Sydney Burns Club. Secretary, John Harrison, Kitty Brewster, Cowpen, Northumberland.

CRAIGNEUK Burns Club. Secretary, William M'Millan, 3 Shieldmuir, Motherwell.

DENNY Burns Club. Instituted 1895. Hon. President, Rev. A. Oram M'Gregor, E.C. Manse; President, James Clark, Rowantree Cottage; Vice-President, William Bulloch; Secretary and Treasurer, James Scott, Bank View, Denny; Committee, John Gillanders, John Scott, Thomas Marshall, David Liddell. 46 members.

DETROIT (Mich.), Clan Cameron. Secretary, A. W. M'Nair, 12 Woodware Avenue.

DOUGLAS Burns Club. Secretary, G. Torrance, North Quay, Douglas, Isle of Man.

DUBLIN St. Andrew's Society. Secretary, J. C. Anderson, 37 College Green, Dublin.

DUMFRIES Burns Club. Secretary, H. S. Gordon, Solicitor, Mount Brae, Dumfries.

DUMFRIES Burns "Howff" Club. Instituted 1886. President, T. Robertson, St. Michael Street; Vice-President, S. Dickson, St. Michael Street; Treasurer, George Shaw, Queensberry Street; Secretary, John Connor, care of Mrs. Smith, Globe Hotel, Dumfries; Committee, J. Maxwell, C. Saunders, H. Carson, W. Rodger, J. Miskelly, T. Craig, J. Reid. 65 members.

DUMFRIES "Wale of Good Fellows" Club. Secretary, Robert Bower, 4 Ramsay Place, Dumfries.

DUNOON Haggis Club. Instituted 1896. Secretary, Archibald Ferguson, Church Street, Dunoon. 88 members.

DUNS Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Secretary and Treasurer, John M'K. M'David, Schoolhouse, Gavinton, Duns. 60 members.

EDINBURGH Ninety Burns Club. Instituted 1890. President, J. Fraser Cunningham, 35 Restlarig Terrace, Leith; Vice-President, William Lawson, 61 Lothian Road; Treasurer, Peter Smellie, 15 Hart Street; Secretary, John A. Clues, 10 Dublin Street; Committee, D. L. Johnston, John A. Hall, D. Mackay, A. Gunn, Dalziel Pearson. 180 members.

EDINBURGH (Portsburgh) Burns Club. Instituted 1894. Treasurer and Secretary, James M. Sibbald, 13 Calton Hill. 30 members.

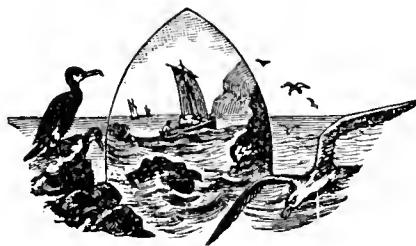
EDINBURGH (South) Burns Club. Treasurer and Secretary, James Granger, 16 Melville Terrace, Edinburgh.

FORT WAYNE (Ind.) Caledonian Society. Secretary, William Lawson, Fort Wayne, Ind., U.S.A.

- GALASHIELS** Burns Club (dormant). Secretary, James Wilson, 25 Channel Street, Galashiels.
- GIRVAN**, The Carrick Burns Club. Secretary, Andrew Robertson, The M'Kechie Institute, Girvan.
- GLENCAIRN CAMP** (No. 139) Sons of Scotland. Instituted 1894. Chief, Donald M'Taggart; Chieftain, Thomas H. Watson; Treasurer, John G. Innes; Secretary, James Watson, Sonya.
- GLENPATRICK** Burns Club. Secretary, John Carson, 27 High Street, Johnstone.
- GOREBRIDGE** Burns Club. Instituted 1896. President, D. Blaik, J.P.; Vice-President, James Cochrane; Secretary and Treasurer, W. M. Forrester, Gorebridge; Committee, Thos. M'Farlane, Richard Clark, J. D. Hislop, Alex. Clyne, Matthew Bennet, James Gunn, George Miller, George Young, John Duncan, John Easton. 62 members.
- HAMILTON** Burns Club. Instituted 1877. Secretary, T. A. Robertson, Quarry Street, Hamilton. Meets in Commercial Hotel, Hamilton. 120 members.
- HAMILTON** "Glencairn" Burns Club. Secretary, Gavin C. Prentice, 28 Woodside Walk. Club meets at 49 Campbell Street.
- HAMILTON** Junior Burns Club. Instituted 1886. President, Alexander Aitchman, Gateside Street; Vice-President, Robert Cunningham, Chapel Street; Treasurer, John Stewart, Cadzow; Secretary, William Wilson, 56 Miller Street, Hamilton; Committee, Thomas Aitchman, Andrew Dickson, James Gourlay. 30 members.
- HAMILTON** Original Burns Club. Secretary, James Eglinton, 32 Hope Street.
- HAMILTON** (Ont.) Clan M'Kenzie Club. Secretary, James M'Kenzie, 202 Fay Street, South.
- HAWICK** Burns Club. Instituted 2nd March, 1878. President, Councillor Robert Turnbull, Wellogate Place; Vice-President, Charles M'Daid, Myreslawgreen; Treasurer, John C. Weatherhead, Melgund Place; Secretary, James M'Cartney, 16 Trinity Street, Hawick; Committee, Charles Halford, Robert Nichol, Charles Swinton, Frederick D. Wyles, Francis Bell, George M. Ferguson, Peter Drumond. 260 members.
- HULL** Burns Club. President, Alderman F. Larrard, 15 Kingston Square; Vice-Presidents, J. A. Brown (and eight others), London and Midland Bank; Hon. Treasurer, C. E. Exley, Coltman Street; Hon. Secretaries, W. C. Carle, York Union Bank, Limited, and W. D. Davis, 22 St. Luke's Street, Hull; Committee, F. Andus, W. Barry, A. Bonnyman, J. H. Brown, F. T. Davis, Fred. Ingham, A. E. Paulsen, H. T. Menchant, C. Letill. Session closes in April, 1899. 250 members.
- ILLINOIS** Clan Macgregor (No. 66), O.S.C. Instituted 1890. Secretary, John Hall, 1202 South Vermillion Street. Meet in German Odd-fellows' Hall, 107 Main Street, Streatar. 52 members.
- INNERLEITHEN** Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Treasurer and Secretary, James Mitchell, Hall Street, Innerleithen. Meet in Volunteer Arms Hotel. 37 members.
- IRVINE** Burns Club. Instituted 1826. President, John Johnston, High Street; Vice-President, John Norval Murray, Solicitor; Treasurer, Robert F. Longmuir, Marine Lodge; Secretary, Jas. Dickie, Solicitor, Irvine. The Directors, President, Vice-President, Hon. Treasurer, and Hon. Secretary are *ex officio* Directors; the other Directors are Alexander Gilmour, Alexander Longmuir, Rev. Henry Ranken, Robert Boyd, James F. Longmuir, Robert J. Hamilton, James J. M'Naughton, Thomas R. Stuart, John Johnston, H. M. Highet, Charles Murchland, Harry D. Andross. 82 members.

- JOHNSTONE Burns Club.** Instituted 1892. Secretary, Charles A George, Ann Street. 85 members.
- LADIES' SCOTTISH CLUB** of Rochester, N.Y. Secretary, Katharine Ross, 74 East Avenue. 50 members.
- LEITH Burns Club.** Secretary, William Wilson, 21 Panmure Place, Edinburgh.
- LINLITHGOW Burns Club.** Secretary, John Patrick Hardy, 34 Kelvin-side Gardens, Glasgow.
- LONDON (Ont.) Clan Fraser.** Secretary, John G. Jones, 241 Queen's Avenue.
- MANCHESTER** and Salford Caledonian Association. Secretary, Duncan MacLean, 4 Longford Place, Victoria Park, Manchester. 260 members.
- MELROSE Burns Club.** Instituted 1887. Treasurer and Secretary, Thomas H. Smart, St. Dunstan's Place, Melrose. 50 members.
- MELROSE ABBEY CAMP Sons of Scotland.** Instituted 1892. President, Thomas Haddow; Treasurer, C. A. Crosbie; Secretary, R. L. Innes, Sirncoe.
- MILNGAVIE Burns Club.** Instituted 1886. Secretary, Wm. M'Kenzie, 83 Hall Place, Milngavie.
- MILWAUKEE (Wis.) St. Andrew's Society.** President, Wm. Currie; Secretary, Robert P. Fairbairn, Milwaukee, Wis., U.S.A.
- MONTREAL Clan MacLennan.** Secretary, George G. Barry, 40 Inspector Street.
- NEWBURGH Burns Club.** Instituted 1890. Secretary and Treasurer, Peter Anderson, Newburgh. 36 members.
- NEWCASTLE and TYNESIDE Burns Club.** Secretary, P. Bell, 7 Holly Av., West. Meet in Hotel Metropole, Clayton Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 200 members.
- OBAN Burns Club.** Instituted 1889. Secretary, Thomas Boyd, 5 George Street. 40 members.
- OVERTOWN Burns Club.** Instituted 1870. Secretary, George M'Dougall, Durham Bank Orchard. 23 members.
- TANNAHILL-MACDONALD Club.** Instituted 1874. President, Robert Adam, jun., 1 Union Avenue, Newton, Ayr; Vice-President, James S. Anderson, 36 New Sneddon Street, Paisley; Treasurer, William Berry, 8 Kelvinside Road, Paisley; Secretary, R. Lauchlan, Roseneath Cottage, Paisley. 30 members.
- PATERSON (N.J.) Caledonian Club.** Secretary, Archibald M'Call, 131 North Ninth Street, Paterson (N.J.), U.S.A.
- PHILADELPHIA Burns Association.** Secretary, George Goodfellow.
- PHILADELPHIA Burns Statue Association.** Instituted 1893. Secretary, J. W. R. Collins, Broad Street Station.
- PHILADELPHIA Caledonian Club.** Instituted 1859. Chief, Malcolm Henry; Second Chieftain, Jas. Irvine; Third Chieftain, Hugh Tulloch.
- PHILADELPHIA Clan Cameron.** Instituted 1890. Chief, John Thom; Secretary, Geo. R. Stewart.
- PHILADELPHIA Scots Thistle Society.** Instituted 1796. President, Andrew Lockerbie; Secretary, Joseph Fergusson.
- PHILADELPHIA St. Andrew's Society.** Instituted 1749. President, John Ferguson; Vice-Presidents, G. W. Hall and Dav. Milne; Treasurer, Alex. Harding; Secretary, Peter Boyd.
- PHILADELPHIA Tam o' Shanter Club.** Instituted 1883. President, John Dale; Treasurer, William M. Collins; Secretary, Robert Smith.

- PITTSBURGH (Pa.) Waverley Society and Burns Club. Secretary, Robert Thomson, Pittsburgh, Pa., U.S.A.
- POLLOKSHAWS Burns Club. Instituted 1886. President, James Macdougall, J.P., 4 Grantly Gardens, Shawlands; Secretary, James Murray, 91 King Street, Pollokshaws. 60 members.
- PORTOBELLO Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Secretary, Wm. Baird, F.S.A. Scot., Clydesdale Bank. 66 members.
- POSSILPARK Burns Club. Instituted 1892. President, D. T. Macdonald, 180 Saracen Street; Secretary, Hugh P. Simpson, 44 Bardowie Street. 70 members.
- PROVIDENCE Clan Cameron. Secretary, James Shaw, 28 Bishop Street, Providence, Rhode Island, U.S.A.
- PROVIDENCE Caledonian Society. Secretary, George Gibb, 408 Chalkstone Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island, U.S.A.
- RENFREW Burns Club. President, Robert Lang, 3 Manse Street; Secretary, Archibald Buchanan, 27 Queen Street, Renfrew.
- SCOTTISH THISTLE Club of Ottawa, Ills. Instituted 1894. Secretary and Treasurer, Wm. E. W. MacKinlay, Post Office Block, Ottawa, Illinois, U.S.A. 60 members.
- SIR WM. WALLACE CAMP Sons of Scotland, Kingston, Ontario, Canada. Recording Secretary, J. R. Massie.
- ST. ANDREW'S Society of Bay County. Instituted 1890. Secretary, G. A. Wilson, Bay City, Mich. 67 members.
- ST. JOHN, N.B., Clan Mackenzie. Secretary, Joseph A. Murdoch, Haymarket Square.
- STOW Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Secretary, Wm. H. Cook, Fountainhall, Midlothian. 45 members.
- THAMES (Auckland) Burns Club. Secretary, John Gibb, Gas Works, Thames, Auckland, N.Z.
- WATERBURY (N.H.) Burns Club. Secretary, W. H. Callan, 495 Washington Avenue.
- WEST BAY CITY (Mich.) Clan Fraser. Secretary, John Kennedy, 510 N. Chilson Avenue.
- WOODSTOCK (Ont.) Clan Sutherland. Secretary, C. W. Oliver.
- YONKERS (N.Y.) The Robert Burns Club. Secretary, Kenneth M'Kay, 9 Poplar Street.



ANNUAL
Burns Chronicle
AND
Club Directory.

(INSTITUTED 4TH SEPTEMBER, 1891.)

Edited by **D. M'NAUGHT, Kilmaurs.**



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P R E F A C E.

IN issuing the Ninth Volume of the *Chronicle*, the Federation, while much encouraged by the large circulation which the serial has already achieved, would again urge upon the Clubs the necessity of placing their orders with the Publisher at as early a date as possible, otherwise prompt delivery at the privileged price cannot be guaranteed.

Owing to press of matter, the Notes and Queries have been withheld and the Bibliography has been considerably curtailed. A considerable number of miscellaneous contributions has also been held over till next year.

The Editor again thanks his contributors for the voluntary offerings, and also the many friends and correspondents who so kindly encourage him in the work of the *Chronicle*.

D. M'NAUGHT.

BENRIG,

KILMAURS, 1st *January*, 1900.

THE STORY OF THE DUMFRIES MAUSOLEUM.

THE following paper is compiled from the minute book of the Mausoleum Committee, of which Dr. Grierson's father (Mr. William Grierson of Baitford) and the Rev. Henry Duncan of Ruthwell were secretaries, and from numerous letters from the celebrities of that time found among the effects of Dr. Grierson, Thornhill, which documents have been kindly placed at my disposal by their present possessors.

From these it appears that a preliminary meeting of the "friends and admirers of the late Scottish bard, Robert Burns," was held in the George Inn, Dumfries, on 16th December, 1813, for the purpose of taking into consideration the measure of opening a subscription for erecting a Mausoleum over the Poet's remains—John Syme of Ryedale in the chair. It was reported to the meeting that a number of gentlemen had signified their approbation of the measure, and it was thereafter agreed to form a Committee, and to adjourn the meeting to 6th January following. At the adjourned meeting General Dunlop, M.P., son of Mrs. Dunlop of Dunlop, the Poet's friend, was called to the chair, and it was intimated that a large number of noblemen and gentlemen highly approved of opening a public subscription for the purpose. A large and influential Committee of noblemen and gentlemen was formed, and also a special Committee with Dr. Duncan, Dumfries, as convener.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

At a meeting of friends and admirers of the late Scottish bard, Robert Burns, assembled in the George Inn, for the purpose of taking into consideration the measure of opening a public subscription for erecting a Mausoleum over his remains in St. Michael's Churchyard, Dumfries, General Dunlop, M.P., was called to the chair. The meeting, considering that it has long been a subject of regret, and indeed a reflection against their country, that no public tribute of respect has yet been paid to the

memory of the man who employed his unrivalled powers in giving grace and dignity to the lowland language of Scotland, and in illustrating the simplicity of the manners and character of the Scottish peasantry, resolve :—

First.—That a Mausoleum ought to be reared over the grave of Burns, and that the expenses be defrayed from a fund to be raised by subscription.

Second.—That the following noblemen and gentlemen shall be appointed a Committee to promote the subscription, and to carry the object into effect, viz. :—

The Most Noble the Marquis of Queensberry.
 The Right Hon. Earl of Selkirk.
 General Dunlop, M.P.
 William Robert Keith Douglas, Esq., M.P.
 C. S. Stuart Menteath, Esq. of Closeburn.
 Edward Boyd, Esq. of Mertonhall.
 David Staig, Esq.
 William Miller, Esq.
 W. Grierson, Esq., Cummertrees.
 John Syme, Esq. of Ryedale.
 Andrew Gray, Esq. of Craigs.
 Dr. William Maxwell of Netherwood.
 Major Bryce M'Murdo.
 William Taylor, Esq. of Jamaica.
 John Commelin, Esq. of Troqueer Holm.
 Joseph Gass, Esq., Provost of Dumfries.
 The Rev. Henry Duncan of Ruthwell.
 The Rev. Dr. Duncan, Dumfries.
 The Rev. John Wightman of Kirkmahoe.
 Gabriel Richardson, Esq. of Rosebank.
 William M'Lellan, Esq. of High Kelton.
 Adam Rankine, Esq. ; and
 William Grierson, Esq. of Baitford.

Any seven of whom to be a quorum ; and appoint Mr. Staig, Mr. Duncan, Mr. Grierson, Mr. Syme, Dr. Maxwell, Mr. Richardson, Mr. Rankine, and Mr. Commelin to be a Special Committee, any five of them to be a quorum, open to all the members of the General Committee—Dr. Duncan to be convener of the Committees.

Third.—That the Committees do correspond with the friends and admirers of Burns in the United Empire, the East and West Indies, and America, in order to procure subscriptions.

Fourth.—That so soon as the amount of the subscriptions can be nearly ascertained, public notice shall be given in the newspapers ; and as several eminent artists have already expressed their wish to offer plans for the proposed Mausoleum, they should then be requested to exercise their

ingenuity, and forward their designs to the Committee; and also that persons of taste and literature should be invited to furnish monumental inscriptions.

Fifth.—That when a variety of plans have been procured, and it is judged proper to proceed with the work, a meeting of the subscribers shall be called, in order to determine on the plan to be adopted.

Sixth.—That when the plan is adopted, the Committee shall advertise for tradesmen to give in estimates.

Seventh.—That the Rev. Henry Duncan of Ruthwell, and Mr. William Grierson, Dumfries, be appointed secretaries and treasurers.

Eighth.—Accounts to be advertised.

Ninth.—That the above resolutions be published in the newspapers; that a sufficient number of copies be printed and transmitted by the secretaries to the friends and admirers of Burns throughout the United Empire and abroad; that they be requested to co-operate in carrying into effect the object of this Association.

JAMES DUNLOP, Chairman.

Subscription papers are lodged with the Treasurers, and at the
British Linen Offices, Dumfries.

DUMFRIES, 6th January, 1814.

The raising of subscriptions was set about in the most energetic manner, as appears from the following letter written by Mr. (afterwards Sir) Walter Scott to the secretaries from Edinburgh on 14th January, 1814:—

I am favoured with your packet enclosing proposals for erecting by subscription a monument to the memory of Burns, and I am very much obliged to you for affording me an opportunity of testifying my high veneration for the Ayrshire Bard. My society is very limited, but I hope to get some subscriptions, and would be much obliged to you to send me a list of such as have been already procured that I may have some general rule for assisting my friends, for I have observed that it is often advantageous to have an idea of what would be thought liberal and handsome. I beg you will put my name down for ten guineas, without limiting myself to that sum, however, should there be further occasion. We have to regret the loss of Mr. Stark, the only architect in Scotland, as I greatly fear, who could have given a plan of simplicity and dignity corresponding to the genius of the author. I presume it is only meant to inclose, not to alter or violate the stone which Mrs. Burns placed over her husband. The situation is in all respects highly striking.

I will take the liberty to send one of the papers you have sent me to Mr. Constable, the bookseller here, whose influence is considerable, and opens some avenues to which I have not personally any access.

WALTER SCOTT.

EDINBURGH, 14th January, 1814.

Other letters followed of similar import :—

EDINBURGH, 26th Dec., 1814.

DEAR SIR,—As soon as I received your letter I had some communication with Mr. Scott, and have ever since been making great progress in collecting the subscription money for poor Burns's monument, most of which I have now received; but until our Court meet again I cannot complete them, as I shall to-morrow set out for St. Andrews for about a fortnight or more. In a few days after my return to town I shall send you the whole, with a statement of their amount. Here I cannot boast of much success, having only procured a guinea from Mr. Jeffrey, the celebrated lawyer, and put down myself for two. The play produced only £39 14s. neat. But there was short warning, and on Tuesdays the house is generally thin. I believe when all shall be collected I shall have to transmit to you £60 14s. or thereby. My endeavours in the north country totally failed. Indeed I could not discover in the How of the Mearns, where Mr. Burns's father had been born and must have had many relations, a single person who counted kin with him, the last that could be recollected having removed about a score of years ago to Aberdeenshire. He was a farmer of the name of Burness, and, I have heard, the Poet's cousin.

I blush for the indifference of Scotland to a genius that did her so much honour, and hope that your success in England will make some amends, however painful the reflection that Burns's native country pays so little respect to his memory.

Wishing you many returns of the season.—I am always, dear Sir, yours most faithfully,

K. W. BURNETT.

Another letter was from William Douglas of Almorness, M.P. for the borough of Plympton Earl, county of Devon, one of the members of the Mausoleum Committee :—

CASTLE, Jany. 21st, 1814.

SIR,—I enclose the covers frank'd, as you desired. I know of no person in Aberdeen fitter than Mr. Thomson for receiving the subscriptions.

The subscription paper and resolutions which you sent me have been committed to the care of Mr. Alex. M'Millan, in Castle-Douglas, who will lose no opportunity of obtaining any little matter which the people of the place and neighbourhood may feel disposed to contribute. It is quite right to try every person and every place, but I do not expect much here, as the neighbourhood, especially the wealthier part of it, will most probably forward their subscriptions to Dumfries. I have some difficulty about my own. I am not less averse to ostentatious forwardness than I am to parsimony. I neither wish to fall short of the liberality that is proper nor to presume beyond it, and would much rather, as one of the Committee, give somewhat additional afterwards, if necessary for completing the design, than be emblazoned on the page of a public subscription paper. If you think ten guineas right, let that be my subscription in the meantime. If too much or too little, omit me till I see you in a few days hence as I pass.

to London, when I can be made acquainted with the subscriptions of persons similarly situated, and conform to their example.

By the way, a little more of the profits of poesy might have been dedicated by the most fortunate of our Border minstrels to decorate the memory of a less fortunate bard.

However, it is not by the liberality of a few individuals, but by the amount of the general subscriptions, that the Committee's object is to be attained.—I remain, Sir, your very obedt.,

Mr. Wm. Grierson, Dumfries.

WILLIAM DOUGLAS.

On 29th of same month the Poet's brother Gilbert wrote to Mr. Grierson from Grant's Braes:—

GRANT'S BRAES, 29th January, 1814.

I received yours of the 12th inst. covering resolutions of a meeting at Dumfries of the 6th curt. You will readily believe that I was much gratified with the exertions of a meeting so respectable to make so great a public testimony of their regard for my brother's memory. It will readily occur to every gentleman concerned that however much I might be inclined it is a matter I cannot stir or be seen in. I am not very sanguine in my expectations of aid to the subscription in this neighbourhood. I believe my brother was personally known to David Anderson, Esq., St. Germain's, near Tranent, a most respectable gentleman, and a man of taste, but of too shy and delicate a cast for bringing the subscription much forward. Robert Stewart, Esq. of Alderston, near Haddington, was in India, I believe, at the time of my brother's death, and has been more successful in the pursuit of wealth than of literary taste, in which he has not been much engaged, but I have heard him talk emphatically of heaven-born genius, &c. His near neighbour, Robert Veitch, Esq., Hawthornbank, is himself a votary of the muses, and sufficiently enthusiastic, but as he has a large family and his circumstances comparatively moderate, I am not sure that it would be right to make any call on his purse. Alexander Houston, Esq. of Clerkington, M.P. for Glasgow in the last Parliament, has shewn me more obliging and useful attention than any other great man in this country, but though his subscription will not be wanting if applied for, yet, I suppose he would not like to solicit subscriptions. I have thought it right to mention these gentlemen to you that Mr. Duncan may judge how far it will be proper to apply to any of them. A Mr. Richardson, merchant in North Shiels, once left a letter for me at the King's Arms, Dumfries, inclosing some poems of his own. As I had many communications of that kind from people I knew nothing of, I never thought of taking any notice of them. I happened lately, however, to meet an English clergyman who is intimately acquainted with Mr. Richardson, who spoke in high terms both of his talents and worth, and that he had risen from a low beginning to considerable eminence and success in life. I may likewise mention to you that he is a leading member of a Marygold Society in North Shiels. I should think him a person very likely to interest himself in promoting the subscription.

GILBERT BURNS.

I also find a letter from Mr. Robert Ainslie, W.S., who accompanied Burns on his border tour, and to whom he addressed many of his best epistles. Writing from Edinburgh on 3rd February, 1814, Mr. Ainslie explained that the letter addressed to him by Mr. Grierson and the Rev. Henry Duncan had been late in reaching him, as it was addressed to Edingham, where he had not been since the middle of November. He willingly accepts the nomination as a member of the Mausoleum Committee, although he is afraid that being so much resident in Edinburgh, he may be but an inefficient member. And George Thomson, Edinburgh, the correspondent of Burns, wrote to Mr. Syme of Ryedale of date 10th May following:—

EDINBURGH, 10th May, 1814.

It gives me the greatest pleasure to find that there is now a certainty of a monument being erected to the memory of the greatest poet our country has produced. May I request that you will put down my name for five guineas?

I cannot help feeling some anxiety that a design should be obtained worthy of the illustrious dead, and honourable to those who take charge of it. This will depend entirely on the artist to whom you apply, and 'tis of the utmost importance, therefore, to fix upon one who is decidedly eminent for invention, knowledge, and classical taste, and to be guided entirely by him. For if gentlemen get various designs and then exercise their own judgment upon them, the chance of their chusing the worst is much greater than that they would chuse the best; for this obvious reason—that there is no art or science in which our countrymen are so utterly ignorant as that of architecture or sculpture. The fine arts do not make a part of the studies either of our men of fortune or of those educated for the liberal professions. And if they acquire a smattering of knowledge after they leave the University, it is generally so superficial that it only serves to give them pretensions and to mislead them. Even those who live by the profession of architecture in Scotland are notoriously uneducated and ignorant, and since the recent death of the truly ingenious Mr. Stark, I do not know one of our countrymen who deserves the name of an architect. If there are any whose fame has not reached Edinburgh, I ask their pardon.

The gentleman to whom I would strongly recommend it to you to apply for a design is Mr. Smirke, R.A., London, an eminent painter well known to every amateur of the fine arts, or to his son, the architect in London, well known by his design for Covent Garden Theatre, the front of which is worthy to have stood in Athens.

I presume the design for Burns's monument will be architectural, or chiefly so; whatever there may be of sculpture about it will, I should imagine, consist only of alto or basso relievo. Now, the Messrs. Smirke are, of all the artists I can think of, the most competent to give you a chaste, classic, and noble design, in whatever style the fund may permit it to be executed. Sculpture, I believe, even in bas relief is very expensive,

and if the fund should not admit of a monument sufficiently large to be a striking object, and of much ornament from the sculpture to be superadded, then you must no doubt be contented to have the one without the other, or with the less of it. As soon as you have ascertained the total amount of the fund you should state it to Mr. Smirke or the artist to whom you apply. Give him a slight drawing to show the elevation and form of the ground where the monument is to be built, letting him know the exact price of building per cubic foot in Dumfries with the best freestone, and ask a design architectural and as much ornamental as he thinks it ought to be, and as the fund will admit of, beseeching him to estimate it correctly, and not to let you begin what the fund will not enable you to finish, an error into which we Edinburghers have fallen most grievously, and more than once, as our unfinished University and Nelson's Monument do testify.

I had a conversation soon after the lamented death of Burns with Mr. Smirke, R.A., upon the very subject of a monument to the Poet. Upon that occasion he expressed the highest admiration of his genius and writings, said he would be happy to furnish a design, and I understood him to say that profit would be the least thing he should have in view. And I remember well he expressed it to be his conviction that if any respectable character upon 'Change in London would take charge of a subscription paper for erecting a monument to Burns, and set about it in earnest, he would get many hundred pounds in two or three days.

What would you think of writing to Sir James Shaw or any other warm-hearted Scotsman on this subject who has influence among those most liberal of all men, the London merchants?

If you write to Mr. Smirke you are at liberty to communicate what I have said.

G. THOMSON.

I may here mention a fact in connection with Thomson which is not generally known. In a letter by Dr. Patrick Neill, Canonmills, to Mr. Grierson of date 4th February, 1850, the following occurs:—

I had the satisfaction of seeing old George Thomson last week. He tells me he *never saw* Robert Burns, although he corresponded so much with him, and got him to write some of his finest words for the old Scottish airs.*

There are three letters from Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., to the Rev. Henry Duncan, Ruthwell, bearing upon a subscription towards the erection of the Mausoleum. He was the father of the present Baroness Burdett-Coutts, was the most popular English politician of his time, and the idol of the London populace. His career far surpasses even that of the late Mr. Parnell, and is well worthy of perusal. The letters are:—

* Mr. Cuthbert Hadden avers that Thomson in a letter in "Hogg's Instructor" distinctly states that he met the Poet *once* at dinner in the house of Simpson, Bookseller, Edinburgh. We have not verified this, but Mr. Hadden errs in quoting Thomson's letter of May, 1795. "The phiz" there referred to is Bengo's engraving. [Ed.]

SIR,—As a warm admirer of the first poet of his time I shall readily contribute my mite to do honour to his memory. I own I should rather have contributed to benefit his children, or any who were dear to him, as doing more good. For, after all, a monument is very superfluous to one who has left such works behind him.—I remain, Sir, your most obt.,

OXFORD, 30th Jany., 1814.

F. BURDETT.

SIR,—I should not have delayed answering your letter had I not been under a difficulty which, after all, I must get your assistance to remove. It arises from my not knowing the sum it would be handsome for me to name for the erection of the monument to the genius of Burns. If you would have the goodness to inform me what has been subscribed by others, or what would be considered as handsome, you would confer on me a great obligation.—I remain, dear Sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

F. BURDETT.

OXFORD, 8th March, 1814.

SIR,—I am much obliged to you for the clue you afford me to escape from the difficulties I felt upon the interesting subject of Burns's memory. It appears to me that in order to do honour to the Poet, subscriptions should be numerous rather than large. I shall therefore name the largest sum hitherto named, £10, having not the least objection to double, treble, or quadruple it if thought better, and if that which strikes me as desirable should not equally strike the Committee.—I have the honour, Sir, your most, &c.

F. BURDETT.

OXFORD, 25th March, 1814.

Friends and admirers of Burns in all parts of the world were asked to subscribe to the fund. The Provost and Magistrates of Dumfries gave the scheme their countenance. Mrs. Jordan, the celebrated actress, gave a performance in Dumfries in aid of the funds, as is shown by the play bill, which produced £33, 18s. ; and Sir Walter Scott was instrumental in securing the valuable services of Mr. and Mrs. Siddons for the same object, and they gave a full dress benefit night in Edinburgh, which realised the sum of £39, 14s. His letters to Mr. Grierson on that subject were as follow :—

EDINBURGH, 20th May, 1814.

I did not answer your last favour because I did not find an opportunity to suggest to Mr. Siddons the plan of a benefit for Burns's Monument. The fact is there are so many demands of this nature upon a theatrical manager that unless I were to find a very favourable moment I should not much like to suggest any thought that may enlarge this tax. My own idea was to speak to John Kemble when there, which would have been certain to make a house, but I was obliged to leave town while he was acting. I will keep the proposal, however, in view ; in the meantime, I send some subscriptions on the other side, which may be added to those lists already circulated.

My own circle of friends is very limited, but I trust to get a good many guineas if I go to London before the books are closed. I have always

declined taking money, so that you will have the trouble to collect the subscriptions by some proper person here. WALTER SCOTT.

EDINBURGH, 3rd December, 1814.

I have only time to write you two lines, being very busy just now. Mr. Siddons readily and handsomely agrees to give the benefit, and gives two guineas himself. The expense of the house is £40. It holds £200. I must endeavour, though my interest lies little in that way, to get some women of fashion to patronise the thing, when possibly we may gather £100.

WALTER SCOTT.

EDINBURGH, 14th December, 1814.

Our benefit took place last night. We had by no means a crowded, but a very genteel audience. The boxes particularly were filled with fashionable people, but neither the pit nor gallery so full as I should have expected they might have been from the name of the bard. In this instance the higher classes have been more favoured in doing honour to Burns's memory. Mrs. Scott took two boxes, and used all the influence she had with her friends, of whom several took boxes and filled them well. So if the returns do not quite equal our zeal and my expectations it is not our fault. But the produce will be something considerable. As Siddons has behaved so handsomely, the gentlemen of the Committee will probably be of opinion that it will be proper to write him a letter of thanks, by which he will be highly gratified. Both he and his wife gave us a good play and farce, and did all that could be suggested for rendering the evening productive. I will pay my subscriptions to Mr K. W. Burnett, who will also, I hope, take the trouble to settle with Mr. Siddons and remit the money.

WALTER SCOTT.

The following is a copy of the play bill of the Mausoleum benefit nights:—

Theatre, Dumfries.

BURNS'S MAUSOLEUM.

But while memorials rise to mark the spot,
Where sleep the vain, the worthless, and the proud,
Shall he, the pride of Scotland, be forgot,
Nor claim the meed to titled fools allowed?
Yes, there are those with virtuous grief inspired.
To see thy bones unhonoured and unblest;
Whom long the stranger's keen reproach has fired,
To rouse a kindred flame in Scotia's breast.
And soon that stranger's eye shall joy to view,
By taste designed, a fond memorial rise,
To pay thy injured shade the honours due,
And mark the spot where buried genius lies.

The Committee of Management, in their zeal to forward this tribute of respect and admiration, applied to Mrs. JORDAN, who, in the handsomest and most liberal manner, acceded to their request, and *gratuitously* gives

her eminent assistance on the occasion, with a corresponding spirit. Mr. M'CREADY has agreed to dedicate a Night's Performance in aid of the undertaking. Saturday evening next is appointed, when the friends of genius will certainly give their support to a purpose which must interest the feelings of Scotia's sons and daughters. This generous instance will, no doubt, be followed by other if not all the Theatres in the kingdom, and thus afford the opportunity to all ranks of paying a tribute of regard to the memory of the favourite Bard.

In Aid of the Subscription for erecting a MAUSOLEUM over
the Remains of

ROBERT BURNS,

On Saturday Evening, 26th November, 1814,
Will be performed the Favourite Comedy of the
WAY TO KEEP HIM.

The part of the Widow Belmont by Mrs. JORDAN.

Livamore—Mr. MUNRO. Sir Brilliant Fashion—Mr. GOMERSAL.
Sir Bashful Constant—Mr. LANCASTER. William—Mr. FAULKENER.
Sideboard—Mr. WILLIAMS.

John—Mr. ALEXANDER. Pompey—Miss PARR.
Mrs. Livamore—Miss MACAULEY. Lady Constant—Miss WILLIS.
Muslin—Mrs. MARA.

Migorionet—Mrs. GOMERSAL. Furnish—Mrs. LANCASTER.

End of the Play,
An Address on the Occasion,

TO BE RECITED BY MISS MACAULEY.

A PAS SEUL, BY MISS PARR.

The Song of
WILLIE BREW'D A PECK O' MAUT,

Written by BURNS,
To be Sung by Mr. WILLIAMS.

To conclude with the very Favourite Farce of

TIT FOR TAT,

OR, THE

MAN THE MASTER.

Patrick Skipwell—Mr. M'CREADY. Villainous—Mr. GOMERSAL.
Old Meanwell—Mr. FAULKENER. Young Meanwell—Mr. ALEXANDER.
Servant—Mr. GRAY.

Florinda—Miss WILLIS. And Letty—Mrs. GARRICK.

Tickets, 3s., for BOXES and the PIT; GALLERY, 2s. on this particular occasion.
To be had at the Bank of Scotland's and the British Linen Company's Offices, at
the Stamp Office, and at the Courier Office; also at the Shops of Messrs. James
Kerr, Wm. Grierson, David Williamson, and Adam Rankine.

The public are requested to purchase Tickets, as no money will be taken at
the Doors.

Doors to be opened at Half-past Five, and the Performance to begin at
Half past Six o'clock precisely,
Being Saturday Evening.

On the 8th February, 1816, Walter Scott again wrote to Mr. Grierson:—

You were so good some time since as to send me a drawing of Burns's Mausoleum, which I think will look very handsome. I believe I am in debt to the fund in the sum of £5 received from Mr. Weld Hartsteng, of Dublin. I got the sum when I was in England, and wrote to a friend to send the said sum to you, but I fancy it was neglected, as looking over my receipts from him I do not see any from you, so I am afraid it was forgotten. Should it be otherwise, you will have the goodness to return the £5 note which I now enclose.

I think it would be highly advisable to repair the old monument at Kirkconnell, but I feel somewhat doubtful whether there would be perfect good taste in placing upon it our ingenious friend Mr. Mayne's very pretty verses. I should rather prefer doing what has been done on the tomb of Sir John the Grahame at Falkirk, (*i.e.*) cutting a new stone of the same dimensions and exactly a facsimile of the old monument. There is something in the forlorn simplicity of the *hic jacet Adamus Fleming* that I think would be injured by any modern additions. I do not the less admire Mr. Mayne's verses, to which he has added a very good stanza. I intend to solicit his aid in getting words for some fine Gaelic airs lately collected by Alex. Campbell, which I think will prove the purest as well as most extensive collection of Scotch music yet made, as he has recovered some very fine airs.

WALTER SCOTT.

EDINR., 8th Feby., 1816.

Chief among the subscribers were:—

Duke of Buccleuch,	£10 0 0
Sir Francis Burdett, Bart.,	10 0 0
Major-General Dunlop,	10 0 0
Marquis of Queensberry,	5 5 0
Lancashire Subscription,	30 15 0
"Formerly subscribed, including 14 years' interest,"	18 1 0
Subscriptions procured by J. Kennedy, merchant, Lisbon, a native of Kirkcudbright,	23 0 0
Liverpool Subscription,	135 0 0
Montreal Subscription,	81 0 0
Town Council,	10 10 0
Adam Murray, Manchester,	10 0 0
Masonic Society of S. Andrew, Creebridge,	5 5 0
Jas. Crichton, Friars' Carse,	5 5 0
John Mayne, Star Office, London,	5 5 0
Trinidad Subscription,	96 0 0
P. Turnerelli,	5 5 0
Lodge Canongate, Kilwinning (of which Burns was the Poet Laureate),	21 0 0
Glasgow Galloway and Dumfries Society,	25 0 0

While on 25th August, 1815, the Prince Regent expressed his pleasure that the unrivalled genius and memory of Scotia's favourite bard was to be perpetuated by a work of art, in the highest degree beautiful, and suitable to the sacred purpose for which it was intended, and subscribed 50 guineas.

The next step was the advertisement, which appeared in the Dumfries papers of 6th February, 1815, for designs for the Mausoleum, to be sent in by 13th of April. "With regard to the design, the Committee cannot give any very specific directions, as this must be left to the taste of the artists. Ground plan may be square, octagonal, or circular, not more than 14 feet in diameter. Something approaching to the form of a temple, with columns supporting a dome or cupola, might, perhaps, be suitable for this part of the design. The second object is an emblematical figure or subject of marble, and including, probably, a bust or medallion of Burns, supported on a pedestal, with an inscription panel, to be placed in the interior of the Mausoleum." Exterior structure to cost £300 or £400, and the emblematical design a similar sum. Premiums of £10 and £5 were offered for competition.

About fifty plans, designs, and models were received, out of which twelve were selected as preferable to the others, and at an adjourned meeting of the Committee and subscribers held on 25th April, 1815, the design for the Mausoleum by T. F. Hunt, architect, London, was adopted, while that of John Hendry, Edinburgh, was placed second. Mr. Hunt declined to accept of the premium of £10 to which he was entitled as successful competitor, and agreed to furnish working drawings free of expense. His working plans and drawings are still preserved in the Museum in Thornhill.

Builders' estimates were advertised for, and that of John Milligan, Dumfries, amounting to £381, 8s. 6d., was accepted, and Mr. James Thomson was appointed superintendent of works. On 30th May following the Committee "having walked down to the Churchyard and inspected the burial-place of Burns, are of opinion that it is so much encumbered with monuments and tombstones surrounding it, and a risk that it may still be more obscured by other erections, have therefore resolved, with the consent of Mrs. Burns, to remove the whole remains of the family to another and more eligible situation in the new burial ground, and the Mausoleum erected

over the remains is agreed on, the remains to be removed in as delicate and proper a manner as possible." This resolution was carried into effect, and on the King's birthday, 5th June, 1815, a grand procession took place, and the foundation stone of the Mausoleum was laid with masonic honours, and the usual documents and coins deposited therein. The procession marched in the following order :—

A Band of Music.

The Magistrates.

Committee of Management.

The Subscribers.

The Grand Committee of Incorporated Trades, with their Colours.

The Freemasons of the Town and District, in Grand Masonic Order, under the direction of the P.G.M., by whom the Foundation Stone was to be laid.

The Magistrates, Subscribers, and Trades met in the Court-House at 12 o'clock, Freemasons in the New Church. The whole Procession moved off exactly at one o'clock, there being present upwards of 400 Freemasons, representing the following Lodges :—

Lockerbie Whytewoollen.

S. John, Thornhill.

Annan Caledonian.

S. Peter, Mouswald.

S. Ruth, Ruthwell.

S. John, Newabbey.

Union Lodge, Dumfries.

Operative Lodge, Dumfries.

Nithsdale S. Paul.

Eskdale Kilwinning, Langholm.

Lochmaben S. Magdalen.

Annan S. Andrew.

Dumfries S. Michael.

Dumfries Thistle.

Dumfries Kilwinning.

Provincial Grand Master and Office-Bearers.

Followed by Deputations from Kirkcudbright, and

The Royal Arch Chapter of Annan.

The whole procession, under the escort of the Dumfries Yeomanry Cavalry, preceded by a band of music, proceeded in grand order through the streets to St. Michael's Churchyard, accompanied by an immense crowd, whilst the windows on every side were filled with spectators of all ages, and adorned with female beauty.

The foundation stone was laid with due Masonic ceremonial by William Miller, son of Patrick Miller of Dalswinton, Burns's friend, and landlord at Ellisland, who died in 1815, and in addition to the usual deposit of coins and papers there was laid in the stone another bottle containing the following grandiloquent inscription:—

In Aeternum Honorem
ROBERTI BURNS,
Poetarum Caledoniae sui aevi longi principis,
Cujus carmina eximia, patrio sermone scripta,
Animi magis ardentis, ingenii que vi,
Quam arte vel cultu conspicua,
Facetiis, jucunditate, lepore, affluentia,
Omnibus litterarum cultoribus satis nota;
Cives sui, necnon plerique omnes
Musarum amantissimi memoriamque viri
Arte poeticâ tam praeclari, foventes
HOC MAUSOLEUM,
Super reliquias poetae mortales,
extruendum curavere.
Primum hujus aedificii lapidem
Gulielmus Miller, Armiger,
Reipublicae architectonicae apud Scotos,
In regione australi, Curio Maximus provincialis,
Georgio Tertio regnante,
Georgio, Walliarum Principe,
Summam imperii pro patre tenente,
Josepho Gass, armigero, Dumfrisiae Praefecto,
Thoma F. Hunt, Londinensi, Architecto,
Posuit,
Nonis Juniis, Anno Lucis VMDCCCXV.
Salutis Humanae MDCCCXV.

Of which the paper obligingly gives the following translation:—

In perpetual honour of
ROBERT BURNS,
Incomparably the first Scottish Poet of his age,
whose exquisite verses, in the dialect of his country,
distinguished for the strength and fire of native genius,
more than for the acquired accomplishments
of polish and condition,
are admired by all men of letters
for their humour, pleasantry, elegance, and variety;
his townsmen and others, who love polite literature,
and cherish the memory of so eminent a genius,
caused this Mausoleum to be erected
over the mortal remains of
THE BARD.

Of this edifice,
 planned by Thomas F. Hunt, Esq., of London, architect,
 the first stone was laid by
 William Miller, Esq.,
 Provincial Grand Master of the Southern District
 of Free Masons in Scotland,
 In the reign of King George III.,
 During the regency of George, Prince of Wales,
 Joseph Gass, Esq., being Provost of Dumfries,
 On the 5th day of June,
 In the year of light, 5815,
 Of our Lord, 1815.

In the afternoon a large company sat down to dinner in the King's Arms, when the inevitable poem for the occasion was recited by Mr. W. J. Walter, and received with the usual enthusiastic applause, of which, should anyone now desire to see a copy, they may find it in the "Poet's Corner" of the *Dumfries Courier* of 6th June, 1815. The Incorporated Trades gave an entertainment in the evening, and presented Mr. Hunt with their freedom. The Freemasons met at 8 p.m. in the George ball-room. On the following day the Magistrates met in the Town Hall and presented the freedom of the Burgh to Mr. Hunt, the architect; Mr. P. Turnerelli, whose design for the sculpture had been accepted; and also to Mr. W. J. Walter and Captain Hehl.

On the same day the Committee, architect, Mr. Turnerelli, sculptor, London, and others dined in the King's Arms, and at a subsequent Committee meeting the Apollo's head, for the centre of the dome, designed by Mr. Hunt, and also the designs for the daisy and thistle to surround it, were approved. Mr. Hunt at the same time marked off the ground in the new burial ground. Previous to this Mr. Turnerelli had sent in a design for the sculpture. On 6th June the Committee met with Mr. Turnerelli, and it was agreed to adopt his design provided the necessary sum could be procured, either to erect it in marble or Roach Abbey stone. His estimate for marble and figures of life size was 750 guineas, and if the figures were a quarter less 600 guineas. On 8th June the Committee, architect, and others were entertained to dinner in the King's Arms Hotel by the magistrates of Dumfries, when the freedom of the Burgh was officially conferred on Messrs. Hunt, Turnerelli, Walter, and Captain Hehl. At this stage many difficulties began. The

contractor for the Mausoleum was troublesome, and tore in pieces the Committee's written remonstrances as to the insufficient jointing of the granite steps. He placed stones in the dome disconform to contract both as regards thickness and quality, and Mr. Hunt had to step in and see his directions carried out. The Committee inspected the model of the plough for the sculpture as made by Mr. Smale, of Edinburgh, and for which he charged £4, 4s., and thought it should not have cost above a guinea, or 40s. at most. It is noted that "the plough in Mr. Turnerelli's model not being considered anything like the ploughs used in Scotland, it was judged proper to have a model of a proper plough made by Mr. Smale in Edinburgh, to be sent to the sculptor in London." On 9th August, 1816, the Committee inspected the building, and condemned the execution of various parts, and particularly "with respect to the stone which Mr. Milligan calls an Apollo's head, which he has placed in the centre of the dome; the Committee can have nothing to do with it, and require Mr. Milligan to remove it, as an Apollo's head is preparing in London under the direction of Mr. Hunt, as originally resolved, and which must be placed in its proper situation when received. The daisies are not according to the patterns sent by Mr. Hunt, but not having been sent in time the contractor could not delay the work, and was obliged to proceed with his own idea of the pattern." The Apollo's head was duly received, and a duty upon it of £2, 12s. 9½d. was paid at the Custom House. Mr. Thomas M'Craig and Mr. Alexander Crombie were arbiters in settling the sum due to Mr. Milligan, and found him entitled to an extra payment of £101, 16s. 2d.; and at a Committee meeting a letter by Mr. Milligan to Mr. Hunt was read, "of so scurrilous a nature as to be altogether unworthy the notice of the meeting, they determined to treat it with the contempt it deserves." Work ceased, and the Committee agreed to employ a tradesman to finish the curtain wall; and also to enter into another reference with the contractor for the work performed on curtain walls, and a charge for rejected dome stones. An interdict followed the erection of the iron gates at the instance of Mr. Milligan, and they were allowed to be put up after the matter had been heard before the Magistrates. Mr. Milligan again began work at the curtain wall, and he in turn was interdicted by the Committee, and

after hearing he was dismissed from the work. Mr. Hunt prepared drawings for the sarcophagus, which were approved ; but great difficulties had to be overcome in regard to it on account of Mr. Milligan, the contractor, insisting on doing all the work, although the Committee considered only a professional sculptor could properly execute it. Difficulties also arose in connection with the proceeds of the subscriptions received at the commemoration dinner held in London on 25th May, 1816, over which the Earl of Aberdeen presided ; but in the end Mr. A. Gordon, the Committee's agent in London, and Mr. Hunt and Mr. Turnerelli effected a settlement, and the latter received £220 from this source as a first payment to account of the contract price of the sculpture. In connection with this dinner it may be noted that the subscriptions and dinner tickets brought in £528, 3s. 6d., while the dinner and expenses connected therewith brought the clear balance down to the above sum of £220.

The whole work was now approaching completion, and on 8th August, 1818, Mr. Hunt reported upon it to the Committee, who afterwards met and gave effect to a number of his suggestions, and made arrangements for the sculpture being shipped to Dumfries. Mr. Turnerelli, however, would not part with it until he knew how the balance due to him would be made good. He wrote regretting that the proposition of exhibiting the marble monument of the Poet in Edinburgh had not met the approbation of the Committee, and declaring that he felt it to be his duty to ascertain, previous to its being forwarded to Dumfries, how and in what manner the Committee intended to discharge payment, particularly as there were no funds in hand, and the Mausoleum in its unfinished state had cost more than £800, and would require a sum set apart after being finished to keep it in repair. He positively asserted that the monument was worth double the sum stated in his estimate to the Committee. Replying to this letter, the Secretary wrote to Turnerelli, and in the course of his letter, said the Committee "considers that it (the letter) reflects no credit on you, and is in direct opposition both to your profession and agreement. I need not again recapitulate your own proposal and agreement, which of yourself you ought not to have forgot, but which you have not had the candour to admit ; on the contrary, have studiously avoided taking notice of, as if the Committee

had been acting as children and not to have known what they were doing. However, every transaction is minutely narrated, and the proposal and agreement distinctly stated, which you cannot deny; and should you attempt it, there are sufficient witnesses to prove the fact, which we must now establish on oath, since we know whom we have to do with. Although we have hitherto been disappointed in procuring the funds we have good reason to expect, yet we have confident hope of very considerable sums from different quarters, abroad particularly. We had lately advice of £160 being subscribed in Demerara, and the prospect of its being made out £200, and in all probability we will receive it early in the spring, as the gentleman, a native of this place, is then expected who had the management, and we are at present in correspondence with America." Surely, the letter went on to say, he could not expect the Committee to advance the money out of their own pockets, particularly for a work not delivered, although part paid for, and which none of them had ever seen, or heard any opinion of except from Mr. Turnerelli himself. They had never urged the affair upon him, but he had urged himself upon the Committee. The letter added, "you have already our ideas respecting exhibiting in Edinburgh. The Committee never entertained the idea of exhibiting the tribute to the memory of Burns through the country as a *pupit show*. We have more veneration for our country and our bard."

Further correspondence of a similar nature followed, and in the end the sculpture was sent down from London and placed in the Mausoleum. By way of vindication of the position of the Committee, I here introduce two letters from Mr. W. S. Walter, of London, a native of Nithsdale, and contributor of various poetical pieces to the "Northern Minstrel":—

DEAR SIR,—It gives me great pleasure to see that you have at length come to a determination respecting the monument to our favourite bard, and I now only feel anxious that something worthy of that bard may be produced to cover his remains, "and point the spot where buried genius lies." I have seen a spirited and highly elegant model from the hand of Mr. Turnerelli, the celebrated sculptor, who has just completed an elegant monument to Dr. Beattie. I think the subject most appropriate, and he has very judiciously selected the poet's own memorable words, than which nothing could be more striking. I hope the Committee will not waste any great proportion of the subscriptions on the mere masonry; the great object certainly should be the statuary; the other is merely a secondary object, in

my idea a mere protection from the weather, which will beat from the north and eastern quarters where the monument will stand, and which must consequently be well defended. Pray do your utmost to forward the measure in its best shape and you will soothe the bard's indignant shade. With my best wishes to all friends at Dumfries,—I am, dear Sir, your much obliged, &c.,

W. S. WALTER.

LONDON, 10th April, 1815.

Mr. Walter also wrote a poem for the Burns Club meeting in 1817. In forwarding it he writes:—

DEAR SIR,—I am fully sensible of the honour the Committee have done me in supposing that I could do anything worthy of the occasion which calls for it; but the name of Burns is inspiring, and for what I have written, such as it is, I leave it to its fate. Mr. Turnerelli has been, till lately, detained in Ireland by business and family concerns. I saw him yesterday, and of this I am happy to acquaint the Committee, that he is confident he shall be able to fulfil his engagement of having the monument ready by August next. He has heard every opinion of the model, taken the best advice, and is now modelling the whole anew the full size of life, as he is resolved to do all in his power to render the sculpture worthy of the bard it is to commemorate. I beg you will communicate this to the gentlemen of the Committee, and at the same time express my sense of the additional honour they have done me, in union with the many past. Circumstances oblige me to be absent from you personally, but I shall be present with you in spirit, and participate in all the glee and feeling that will mark your jubilee. If this should be thought worthy of the press, will you oblige me with a few copies on fine paper for my friends, and drop me the *Courier* with the account of your meeting. Mr. Talonia unites with me in remembrance to Mrs. Grierson, Mr. Syme, and all friends.—I am, dear Sir, yours truly,

W. S. WALTER.

LONDON, Jany. 16th, 1817.

At this time Gilbert Burns, now drawing near the close of his life, wrote to Mr. Grierson:—

GRANT'S BRAES, 14th Dec., 1815.

DEAR SIR,—A thousand times have I reproached myself for being so long of acknowledging receipt of your obliging letter by Mr. T. Sibbald, with the very elegant engraving accompanying it [an engraving of the mausoleum], but I have been much and disagreeably occupied of late with sequestrating stock and crop, attending meetings of creditors, the sale of bankrupts' subjects, &c., &c.

Peace and plenty, formerly the toast and wish of the ill-advised, have come upon us with a vengeance, and their ill effects are felt particularly severe in the county of wheat—almost exclusively devoted to corn farming—and I have not seen the country in general in such a depressed, desponding state since the conclusion of the American War. Not after all but we are to consider peace as a good thing, but a newly acquired peace while the war expenditure has not ceased can scarcely fail to produce a depression—I

hope only a temporary one; but it appears somewhat preposterous that plenty should be productive of evil. I was quite vexed I was not at home the last time you called here, that I might have given you your choice of the specimens of the Poet's handwriting in my possession. The one I have sent is not a good specimen of his writing, being hurriedly written with bad ink, but upon the whole I considered it the most respectable I had to send you, being a poem composed on the banks of the Nith, the persons and scenery familiar to you.

My wife joins me in kindest compliments to Mrs. Grierson and you. Tell Mrs. G. it would give me great pleasure to see her at her ain fire en', and I am not without hopes of having that pleasure, but every year I live increases my reluctance to undertake a long journey and every year increases the difficulty of my leaving home; but when the Mausoleum is completed I shall certainly, if then in health, endeavour to make a visit to Dumfries. With best wishes for your family happiness and prosperity,—I am, my dear Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

GILBERT BURNS.

William Grierson, Esq.,

Merchant, Dumfries.

Your obliging letter of the 27th I only received yesterday. I am much afraid it will not be in my power to visit Dumfries during the time the London marbleman is with you, though I much wish it; not that I think I could be of any use in improving the marble, as I scarcely think it possible to make an artist produce the likeness of a person he has not seen, but it would certainly gratify me much to comply with the wishes of those who have taken so much trouble to do honour to my brother's memory. I trouble you with the enclosed to Mrs. Burns, and beg you will get it immediately sent to her. If I do make out my visit to Dumfries at this time it will be on Thursday, the 2nd Sept., and wish her to be aware of my coming, as I believe the coach arrives late at Dumfries. I will send and invite Dr. Sibbald to accompany me if I find I can set out, or send what despatches with me he wishes if he do not think of journeying, which I rather doubt. I beg you will present Mrs. B.'s and my assurances of kind regard to Mrs. Grierson, and believe me to be ever,

GILBERT BURNS.

GRANT'S BRAES, 31st Aug., 1819.

After many and great difficulties—law suits with the contractor and disputes with the sculptor—September of the same year marked the completion of the Mausoleum by the setting up of Turnerelli's sculpture, "The Muse of Poetry finding Burns at the Plough." Opinions varied much then, as now, as to the merit of the work. "The figure of the Poet is manly, and the expression of the countenance is good. To those who have seen Burns, perhaps they will not be gratified in finding a very correct likeness, nor was it to be expected. The observations of his brother Gilbert, who came last week to see the monument, are very candid, and much to the point. On

minutely viewing the head, he said that in some parts there was a resemblance of his brother, and, upon the whole, he thought that the artist had done more than he expected, for none of the paintings or prints which were published could be said to be a likeness, and he was satisfied that a better likeness could not have been anticipated from the examples he had to copy from, and never having seen the original." The Committee, whose untiring exertions had brought the work to a successful end, celebrated the event by a dinner in Mr. Dove's Inn, at which they were joined by a few of the other admirers of the Poet.

A large balance was still due to Mr. Turnerelli, and all the Committee did was to undertake to raise it if at all possible. Nothing further seems to have been paid except a sum of £150 remitted from Demerara. Letters down to 6th April, 1821, passed between the parties, and in the end Mr. Turnerelli apparently considered his claim totally bad, and ceased to write on the subject. These facts as to the price of the sculpture are totally different from those given in a leaderette of the *Dumfries Standard*, wherein it was stated that the sculpture was gifted to the community by Turnerelli. The Mausoleum itself, as well as the sculpture, has been the subject of much hostile criticism, and even to this day the discussion is periodically revived. Even "honest Allan" could not refrain from passing his judgment, and in a letter to Mr. Grierson, of date 30th July, 1834, he speaks out boldly:—

I am grieved to find that my remarks on the Burns monument have given pain to a worthy gentleman and a lover of the muses. I agree with you that the design of the architecture is elegant, and may add further, the unity and harmony of the whole are much to my mind. My objection is that the structure wants that massive vigour of design and hardness of material which insure duration in this moist and stormy climate. The sculpture I most heartily and conscientiously dislike. It is ill conceived, and worse executed, and, indeed, the sentiment is beyond the power of sculpture to express. Who can carve an inspired or rather an inspiring mantle? It is but a bit of marble. The muse in the hand of Turnerelli was not likely to succeed in her task. It reminds one of that passage in Scripture—"and a certain woman threw a piece of a mill-stone on the head," &c. (The quotation is from Judges, c. 9, v. 53, and is—"And a certain woman cast a piece of a mill-stone upon Abimelech's head, and all to break his skull.") I am supported in my dislike by very high authorities. A few days ago Mr. Wordsworth, the poet, wrote to me saying that he had been in the vale of the Nith, and had walked in the footsteps of Burns. "By-the-bye," he says, "what a sorry piece of sculpture is

Burns's monument in Dumfries Churchyard. Monstrous in conception and clumsy in the execution, it is a disgrace to the memory of the Poet." Chantrey had no chance for the monument—he was not one of the competitors—so I was not at all disappointed. Had it been confided to his hands, you would have had a statue for your money worth a couple of thousand pounds. I have had a drawing made of the monument—the architectural portion I mean—and it will be engraved for the concluding volume; nor will I fail to intimate to whom we owe the first monument raised by the gratitude of Scotland and to the memory of Burns. You did your best to have the Poet honoured, and who can do more? I have likewise done my best, nor shall I be displeased should a worthier life be written or a better edition of his works published.

I have, however, no cause to repine at my success. There is a regular sale of five thousand copies of each volume of Burns's works, and of the six thousand printed of the life only a few copies are unsold. Though I understand that my labours have not been quite acceptable to sundry persons in the vale of the Nith, it is otherwise with the rest of the country, and some of the first men in the island have written concerning the life and notes in terms of praise too flattering for me to mention. I am not much mortified at this reception in my native valley, so long as it is remembered that I wore an apron and wrought with a scabbling hammer in the Friars' Vennel, so long will my works not have "fair play"; but time renders justice to all, and the day is not distant when I shall either be forgotten altogether or be more honoured than at present on the banks of the Nith.

I am told that our friend Mr. M'Diarmid has a life of Burns in progress. I am glad of this. He will set the world right in many important matters regarding the genius and fortunes of the Poet. So solicitous was he, I have heard, about the truth, that he actually sat beside Mrs. Burns with an interleaved copy of my life for two days questioning her till, to use her own words, she was both weary and ill-pleased about it. His love of truth on the part of our friend did not shorten, I trust, the life of the lady, though it seems to have embittered it. I observe that he says the true history of the Poet's marriage has never yet been told. That is true, but can it be told with propriety? Should he desire to tell the whole truth, I can help him to three of the Poet's letters on that very subject which have not been published, and which contain his sentiments on the matter.

I hear with some sorrow that the Poet's sword and pistols, which he presented to Dr. Maxwell, were sold at a sale of the latter for a mere trifle. This is not at all creditable to the admirers of Burns about Dumfries. I am trying to regain them, and I hope to succeed.

I beg you to accept my best thanks for the kind expressions contained in your letter regarding my edition of the Poet. When I am next in Dumfries—and that will be soon—I shall find my way to Thornhill, without an invitation, and spend a day with one whom I remember with pleasure.

When I was a humble labourer in Dumfries, I looked up to you as one of those who loved literature, and I assure you time has rather strengthened than diminished this feeling.

ALLAN CUNNINGHAM.

BELGRAVE PLACE, 30th July, 1834.

The minute book contains no further information with regard to the cost of the Mausoleum and sculpture, although it appears that all charges against the Committee were duly advertised for and called in. Mr. Grierson, the secretary, appears, from a correspondence with Mr. M'Diarmid in regard to a disputed subscription, to have got his strong iron box robbed of the cash book, visitor's book, and other documents connected with the Mausoleum when on a visit to the coast, and it is therefore impossible to tell from the documents at my command what amount was actually expended. The cost seems to have been well up to £2000, and I fear the verdict of the present day is that a very bad return has been received for the money expended.

JAMES R. WILSON.

NOTE.—In the foregoing, I have laid Mr. Philip Sully's excellent record of the Death Centenary under contribution, which, with characteristic courtesy, he generously placed at my disposal.

J. R. W.



SCOTTISH MUSIC AND SONG.

FROM all that can be ascertained about the music of Scotland, it is safe to assume that it has advanced by a similar process of development to that which has characterised the development of music in several other countries, especially in countries where there is any similarity in climate and geographical conformation. The earliest forms of Scottish music appear to have been interwoven with the national songs and dances, which might be termed the natural modes of expressing those sensations of joy and pleasure which are too intense for full expression by the plain medium of human speech. As far as we are able to conclude from past history, the early Scottish melodies were distinguished for their simplicity, and usually consisted of one measure only; these simple tunes originated no doubt at a remote period of the national life. At all events, we learn from history that the Scottish Fenni, who were a brotherhood of warriors of whom the poet Ossian is believed to have been the last representative, were skilful musicians. It is further stated that this brotherhood flourished in the second and third centuries of our era, but is probably of much earlier origin. They were rather an exclusive caste, and before a member was admitted to the ranks of this Fennian brotherhood, he had to be examined in the art of poetical composition, so that he might be able to sing his achievements on the field of battle with that artistic skill and fascination his own age could provide.

Even at this early period Scotland was by no means a barbarous country, if we are to believe the testimony of Tacitus, and I think we can accept his testimony with some degree of confidence, when we remember that he acted as chronicler to his father-in-law, Agricola, the general in command of the Roman army during one of its important campaigns in North Briton.

From other sources, too, we learn that at a very early period in Scotland the bard was a kind of national institution, in whom the functions of poet and musician were combined in one person. Every chieftain or head of an important clan had his own special bard, whose vocation it was to sing and rehearse the heroic actions of his ancestors. Another of his duties was to harangue the army in a war-song composed for the occasion, so that the warriors might, as far as possible, become oblivious to the horrors that usually resulted from a deadly encounter. Indeed, one of the chief merits of the bard consisted in the extent to which he could produce this effect in the army to which he was attached. We can readily imagine then that the bard occupied an important social position in times of peace; that he was destined to stand before kings, not before mean men.

As a further proof of this statement, the old Caledonians were so kind and generous to their bards that lands were appropriated to them, and became hereditary in their families. Several districts in the Scottish Highlands still retain the name of the bard's territory. For instance, the Gaelic name "Tully-bardin" is derived from two other words—viz., "tulloch," meaning a hill, and "bardin," meaning bards—and thus we have the hill of the bards. The principal musical instrument used by the bards to accompany their songs is generally believed to have been the harp, which we infer from authentic sources differed from the modern harp in having fewer strings, and was much smaller, though much the same in other respects.

Next in order to the bards, and, indeed, closely connected with these, come the minstrels, the principal difference being that the minstrels were strolling singers, who went about the country from house to house reciting heroic ballads and other popular episodes, and on some occasions, too, accompanied the armies to the field of battle. They were also treated with kindness and hospitality wherever they went, and even large sums of money were expended for the maintenance of the minstrels at Court, and in the halls of the nobility.

Sir Walter Scott, in his edition of Thomas of Ercekloune's *Sir Tristrem*, has shown by references to ancient charters that the Scottish minstrels enjoyed all the privileges and distinctions possessed by the Norman troubadours. Indeed, they were not

far behind the troubadours in the arts of narration and musical sentiment. They possessed advantages, it is true, the troubadours had not, from the fact that they had easy access to the romances and traditional tales of their country, which were retained so vividly in the memories of the people, as well as a close acquaintance with the reputed scenes of chivalry. For these reasons the pre-eminence of the Scottish minstrels over the minstrels of most other European countries is admitted by competent authorities. In case it may be thought that the subject is not stated with sufficient impartiality, let me say that Thomas of Erceldoune, better known as Thomas the Rhymer, Kendal, and Huchen, all poets of Scotland, are not only celebrated by early historians, but old manuscripts contain metrical romances in the Northern dialect, while we do not find one in England previous to the time of Chaucer, and it is no exaggeration to say that, when Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* first appeared, they were more widely read and appreciated in Scotland than they were in South Britain.

Notwithstanding the great antiquity which can be assigned to Scottish music in some form or other, the progress of instrumental music appears to have been comparatively slow. The increase in the number and efficiency of the minstrels did not do a great deal in the way of increasing the number or improving the mechanism of musical instruments among the early Scots. With the minstrels, as with the bards, the harp was still the principal musical instrument, though not entirely confined to these two classes of musicians. It was, moreover, the favourite instrument at the Court, and also in the houses of the nobility. Mary Queen of Scots not only played the instrument herself, but encouraged its cultivation among others. For many centuries the harp held undivided sway in Scotland until it was superseded by the bagpipes, which were introduced from France by the French musicians in the train of Queen Mary, who succeeded in popularising this instrument in Scotland, which was already a national one in France, though it is erroneously supposed that the bagpipes were an original product of the former country. No doubt, the natural conformation of Scotland is highly favourable to an instrument such as the bagpipes, and accounts in a great measure for the rapidity with which it became popular so soon after it was introduced.

The early history of the bagpipes, however, shows, that as a musical instrument especially for military purposes, it was largely used on the Continent of Europe, notably among the infantry of the ancient Romans, and we find it portrayed on a Roman coin of the reign of the Emperor Nero. Indeed, it was even used in Ireland long before it sounded the war-note of Lochiel. Although the harp has so far occupied a prominent place in the music of Scotland, it is not to be assumed that it was the only musical instrument possessed by the early Scots. In the history of Scottish music, there are three other stringed instruments, in addition to the harp, which demand special reference from the prominence they once had: these are the Rebec, the Lute, and the Viol, the last of which existed in different forms. The Rebec was a species of rude violin, strung with three stout gut strings having a loud harsh tone, and was in existence as far back as the ninth century. It was to all intents and purposes the instrument of the people, but it found little favour among the higher classes, and many years before its final extinction it was confined to the street minstrel or the half-taught rustic. The Lute, on the other hand, as far back as James I., and even down to the close of the seventeenth century, was one of the most fashionable instruments in Scotland, and ability to play the instrument was looked upon, generally speaking, as a necessary accomplishment in polite society, just as the ability to play the piano in the English society of to-day is looked upon as a necessary accomplishment. The lute player used a musical notation specially adapted for this instrument, and known as "tablature." In this system the strings were represented by a number of lines on which were marked the letters a, b, c, etc., and certain marks were placed over the various letters to signify the value of the notes. Contemporary with the lute, as we have before indicated, were the various classes of viol which were popular in Scotland till comparatively recent times. The difference between the viol and what is known among us as the violin, is not easily perceived by the inexperienced eye—the principal difference being the greater perfection and delicacy of the latter compared with the former instrument, which might be said to contain these elements of the violin which it borrowed from the rebec. It is interesting to notice in passing that about the close of the fourteenth century when

an important discovery was made in vocal music—viz., that the human voice was capable of being divided into classes, such as bass, tenor, and treble—this discovery had an important effect on the construction of the viol. In addition to this, it suggested the idea of dividing viols into the quartet, “hence it became usual for viol players to have a chest of viols, a case containing three or four instruments of various sizes.” In course of time, however, the viol after a long and important musical career gradually gave way before the violin which is in effect the more perfected form of the stringed instruments played with the bow which preceded it.

In dealing with the subject of Scottish music, we have to remember that throughout its early history, especially during the supremacy of the bards and minstrels, vocal music was undoubtedly the popular form, and instruments, such as the harp, the lute, and the viol, were only used as accompaniments to the human voice, which was cultivated to a wonderful degree of perfection at a very early date. In the history of Scottish music, as in the history of other institutions of human growth, time brought change, and vocal music was gradually superseded by the music of the church, as has been the case in other countries where the Catholic Church has attained a position of supremacy as it did in Scotland. The church, not always famed for its wisdom in dealing with secular affairs, acted wisely with regard to the national music. One of the first things she did after her theological influence had been established was to take the popular melodies of the time and work them into the service of the sanctuary. The effect of this was to prepare the way for the introduction of music of a more advanced character. We find, for example, that the Gregorian chant was taught in Scottish cathedrals and in the early schools, and organs began to be introduced into the churches of Scotland in the reign of James I.

But there is still another factor in connection with the early vocal music of Scotland which cannot be omitted from any sketch of the subject however meagre, and that is the “Sang Scule,” or song school, an institution which can be traced back to the thirteenth century. The very name “Sang Scule” is suggestive of the vein of humour which runs through the Scottish character, and vividly recalls the more ancient humour of Aristophanes, who, in his well-known comedy of

the Clouds, designates Socrates the master of the Thinking Shop. To the more prosaic native of South Britain an institution such as the "Sang Scule" would have been known by the dignified title of a Musical College. A "Sang Scule" existed in almost every one of the cathedral cities of Scotland at one time, and even in the far North; in 1544 Bishop Reid founded and endowed a "Sang Scule" in Orkney. It was to the Catholic Church that Scotland was indebted for the introduction of these schools, and no doubt they originated in the necessities of religious worship.

The Sang Scule of Aberdeen is said to have been the most celebrated of these old institutions, and could lay claim to a long and successful history. It is believed to have existed as early as 1370, and its fame became so great as to attract teachers of Continental distinction. But the reputation of the Scots for music and song was also well known to the English even before this date, and when Edward II. invaded Scotland he brought with his army a famous Latin rhymer with the idea of not only impressing the natives with a belief in his importance but also with a view of celebrating in song the victory he too prematurely anticipated. The poor unfortunate poet was taken prisoner at the battle of Bannockburn by the Scots, who demanded, as a ransom for his life, a poem on the events of the day. Whether the poet was too apologetic for the crushing defeat his army had sustained, or whether his musical composition did not reach the standard the Scots expected, we cannot definitely say, but at any rate his composition was rejected, and he was recommended to prepare for a journey to Hades, and another bard was appointed by the Scots to immortalise the event in song. But to briefly return to that once popular institution, the Sang Scule. It appears from well authenticated sources that the teachers of these schools required to be men of considerable learning and culture. For one thing, a thorough acquaintance with Latin was essential for all such teachers. We also find that the title of "Sir" frequently occurs in the list of teachers of the Sang Scule, and it seems to have been a scholastic honour, for we find that when the ordinary citizen received the order of knighthood he was also called "Sir," but for the sake of distinction he had to write Knight after his name. The title of "doctor," too, in the list of teachers of the Sang Scule often occurs. In one of the

many amusing entries in the Aberdeen records, under date 4th October, 1577, we have the following:—"The said day the Counsell grantit the soume of four poundis to the support of James Symssoune, doctour of their Sang Scuill, to help to buy him cloythis." Again, we find under date 1609, "the bairnis and scholeris of the Sang Schoolis are ordered to find caution for their good behaviour." We have little or no information as to the kind of musical teaching given in these Sang Scules, but in the regulations made by Lord Sempill for his Collegiate Church of Lochwinnoch, founded in 1504, the following occurs. After naming the benefits to be given to the fifth chaplain, it is stated—"He shall be an organist, and shall daily teach a school of singing under the roof of the said Collegiate Church, the boys therein to be instructed according to their power in the pointed Gregorian chant or dotted song and descant as is wont to be done in other like churches in this kingdom." The "descant" referred to in the above quotation was an art by which the singer was enabled to add to a melody at first sight a kind of rough second part consisting entirely of concords.

These concords or harmonies were confined by the early theorists under numerous restrictions of a technical character, which made it exceedingly difficult to become efficient in what was called the "dotted descant." This then gives us an idea of the importance of the Sang Scule, once a national institution in Scotland. Indeed, the days of the Sang Scule might be termed the "golden age" of Scottish church music, both with regard to vocal and instrumental music. In fact, so anxious were the Scots at this period that their instrumental music should be efficiently cultivated that highly trained organists only were permitted to play in the chuches. In 1437, we learn from the Council Records of Aberdeen that a payment of 26s. 8d. was made that year "for blowing of the organs" in the City Church, and in 1485, forty-eight years later, a tax on all sheep and swine brought into the burgh was imposed for the same purpose.

Nor was the cultivation of music exclusively confined to the church, the secular music of the country received a large share of attention at this period, and we find that James IV. frequently contributed small sums of money towards the support of a variety of musicians, such as singers, fiddlers, harpers, and

dancers. According to the Burgh Records of Edinburgh in 1487, there were three public pipers, who were supported in the following manner :—"For the honour of the city, the Provost and Council enact that the common pipers of the burgh should be fed, and that they should go and get their food in turn from all persons of means, or if the pipers took wages, then they should live thereon for that day, and all those who did not give food, ninepence on their day—that is, to each piper threepence at least." From this abstract we may fairly assume that it was not a grievous task even to the individual who had to pay the piper. In the art of making musical instruments, however, the Scots at this period did not stand in the front ranks, and hence their instrumental music was inferior to that of several other European nations.

That they had a variety of musical instruments at this time is certain. In fact, from a rhyme written in the fifteenth century we learn that there were upwards of twenty musical instruments in existence in the country, while the harp, the lute, and the viol were quite common. I think it is reasonable to assume that had Scottish music and song been allowed to proceed in an uninterrupted course of development as it was encouraged by the Catholic Church in what might be termed the intermediate period, it would have attained a high classical distinction long ere now, as well as become a more powerful educational force in the nation.

The geographical features are eminently favourable for such results. There is no question but a country which possesses so distinct a mixture of hill and dale, of mountain and valley, of river and stream, with alternating phases of sunshine and storm, is better calculated for the development of music than flat countries where the scenery "is tame and domestic." So far as the culture and development of music was concerned there came a crisis in the history of the nation with the dawn of the Reformation, and this new spirit which took possession of the people of Scotland drove them to the opposite extreme and exercised an adverse influence on the progress of the national music. The glowing vivacity and sprightliness of the Caledonian Muses were quenched in the gloomy severity of sour-faced Calvinism and stern Presbyterianism.

The profanity of song was denounced from the pulpit. Dancing, with which it is so closely associated, was publicly

rebuked, attired in sackcloth and ashes, and consigned to those abodes of darkness which are said to be reserved for abandoned sinners. Such appears to have been the condition of Scottish song when Allan Ramsay arose as a light in the darkness.

The collection he has given us in the *Evergreen* and the *Tea-Table Miscellany* did much to rekindle the smothered embers of Lyric Poetry, but he did not quite succeed in redeeming the lost treasures of past ages, or raking from the ashes of the fallen religion the sacred reliques of its songs. Nevertheless, he did more for Scottish song than any of his predecessors, and the work which he begun was more extensively carried out by Burns, who, if he had not written any poetry, is entitled to the admiration of posterity for the number of old airs he preserved from extinction. But Scottish music, even at the present day, is not quite emancipated from those adverse sentiments which have governed the mind of the religious community since the Reformation period, and to such sentiments are due the poverty of Scottish instrumental music, and its more exclusive restriction to the region of song, and we know the common theory is that song is generally the precursor of instrumental music, and, therefore, lower in the scale of progress.

Indeed, Lord Macaulay has said with a good deal of plausible dogmatism, that as civilisation advances poetry almost necessarily declines, and in effect further assumes that as men know more and think more they make better theories but worse poetry, and there is a danger of the melody of song being quenched in the labyrinth of metaphysics. If such is the case, then, we say perish civilisation, and our sentiments shall be those of the German professor who set out with the idea that the highest expression of man's happiness was in the possession of intellectual light, but after exploring every accessible region of science and philosophy, he exclaimed in the agony of despair, "my blindness give me back again, my darkness and my sense of joy." Before leaving this part of the subject, however, another reason might be given for the backward condition of instrumental music in Scotland, though a much less formidable one than the events which followed the Reformation. The bagpipe appears to have been the favourite musical instrument in the Highlands, from the time it was first introduced into the country, and the greater portion

of the pipe music has already perished on account of its never having been noted down, but played by the ear. The want of notation was no doubt supplied at a former period by the eager desire every piper had to play with skill and taste the tunes he knew to be most acceptable to his patron. Laird Ramsay of Ochertyre, who left behind him a valuable collection of manuscripts, and who wrote in the first years of the nineteenth century, did not leave this subject unnoticed. After speaking about the rapid disappearance of the bagpipe music which had taken place in his own day, he gives it as his opinion that in twenty years more it would be almost in vain to attempt to collect the popular music of the Highlands.

So far, then, we have traced the rise and progress of Scottish music along its undulating path from the time of the bards and minstrels to the Reformation period, and some of its still more recent features with a few of the side-lights by which history reveals its devious course, and the result has been that we are more conscious than ever how much might still be said on the subject.

From what has already been said, however, we can readily understand why the music of Scotland is so closely identified with her songs and ballads even at the present day, instead of its highest expression being manifested through the medium of instrumental music, as is the case in several other European countries, such, for example, as Germany, Italy, and France. The national songs of Scotland are capable of a more extensive classification than that which is attempted here, but just for the sake of illustration they might be classified somewhat after the following fashion:—First, Love Songs; Second, Patriotic and War Songs; Third, Jacobite Ballads; Fourth, Songs of Character and Incident; Fifth, Bacchanalian Songs; and Sixth, Songs of Thought and Sentiment. Both in order of classification and in point of importance the love songs must be assigned the front rank, and few countries, if any, can lay claim to so rich a store of love songs as Scotland, either in variety, depth of passion, sweetness of melody, or tenderness of sentiment. It is no dream of idle fancy to say that hitherto the love songs of Scotland have been too lightly esteemed. There is cause for regret in the fact that the sentiment contained in many of these beautiful songs has been so frequently made the passing plaything of the love-sick maiden and

amorous swain—in short, has generally been associated with the weaker side of human nature, only to be laughed at in our more cynical moods. Is it not possible that this spirit of love may also proceed from the great soul of the universe in which we dwell? If such a view requires too great a stretch of the imagination, why may we not regard it in something of the same light as did the old Greeks “as a thing born of the gods?” The poet Hesiod, for instance, who appears to have had a vivid insight into the nature of things, speaks of Chaos as coming first in natural sequence, from which emerged the Earth and Hades, which were immediately succeeded by “Eros,” or Love. As he expresses it, “Love then arose, most beauteous of immortals; he at once, of every god and every mortal man, unnerves the limbs; dissolves the wiser breast, by reason steel’d, and quells the very soul.”

The writers of Scottish love-songs were evidently imbued with a similar spirit to that of Hesiod, with regard to the theme which inspired their muse, but a few only of those for whom they wrote appear to have risen to that high standard of appreciation necessary to classical attainment. We must not be hypercritical on this point, however; for although the love-songs may not yet have been a great educational force in the classical development of music in Scotland, we cannot deny that they have exercised a great moral influence on individual character. The exalted emotion on the one hand, and the intensity of the dejection on the other, which is frequently conveyed in the sentiment of these love-songs, is very remarkable. In fact, so intense is it that though reason often totters on its throne, it seldom if ever so completely loses its balance as to end in the dejected lover either murdering the object of his affection or seeking refuge from the pangs of disappointment in self-destruction, as is sometimes the case in the human kingdom, though never in the brute creation. This feature is due in a large measure to the robust nature of the sentiment underlying Scottish love-songs generally. In short, the strong moral fibre which is so well qualified to purge the emotional nature of its grosser and more selfish elements, is seldom absent in these songs. Of course it is next to impossible to do justice to the love-songs of Scotland within the limits of a short paper, but I may mention a few of those which contain several of the charac-

teristics to which allusion has been made—such as “Jessie, the Flower o’ Dunblane,” “Jock o’ Hazeldean,” “Kelvingrove,” and “Roy’s Wife of Aldivaloch.” Then with regard to the patriotic and war songs, they have not only features peculiar to themselves, but the national characteristics of the Scottish people are more easily discerned in the composition and sentiment by those who are not of the nation, though they do not by any means so well illustrate the many-sidedness of the Scottish character as do the love-songs. “Lochaber no More,” and the “Flowers of the Forest,” might be mentioned as good specimens of these songs, the first of which is a very pathetic air; and it is said that when it was first played to the poet Burns with taste at the house of a friend of his in Edinburgh, it brought tears to his eyes, and he exclaimed, “that’s a fine tune for a broken heart.” “The Flowers of the Forest” is equally fine in its way, and is said to have been first attached to an old ballad written as a lament for the unfortunate disaster the Scots sustained on the battlefield of Flodden in 1513. The Jacobite ballads, among which are many beautiful productions both in music and sentiment, mark an important epoch in national history, and are contemporary with the great struggle for civil liberty made against the autocratic pretensions of Charles II. The dramatic effect of many of these Jacobite songs is not only remarkable in a detached sense, but the events of history have been systematically laid under contribution to the unity of the lyrical art. “Charlie is my Darling,” and “Flora Macdonald’s Lament,” are two of the number. The number of songs, too, which come under the title of songs of character and incident, shows the fertility of the Scottish muse. The sympathies are so much in harmony with the ordinary incidents of daily life, as well as the more important, that they appear to be as sensitive as the Æolian harp which is played upon by the passing breeze. Take as an illustration “Caller Herrin’,” “Up in the Morning Early,” and many others which we cannot stop to mention. Scotland is also rich in Bacchanalian songs which afford pleasure and enjoyment even when the punch-bowl is conspicuous by its absence, and the blood is coursing steadily through the veins. We may quote as examples—“Willie Brewed a Peck o’ Maut,” and “Auld Langsyne,” the latter

of which, when sung in four parts, is perhaps the finest Bacchanalian song possessed by any nation in the world.

This now brings me to the songs of thought and sentiment, and with these I have reached the last division of my subject. The songs which come under this division may be taken to mean songs where the harmony between the thought and sentiment is skilfully sustained, the prominent feature being to convey a moral truth rather than the expression of a lyrical passion. If we require examples from sacred song, we might refer to many of the Psalms of David, and in the province of the secular it is distinctly illustrated in the chorus of the Eumenides of Æschylus, also in the choral ode in the Antigone of Sophocles. As fairly good specimens of the songs which come under the division of songs of thought and sentiment, we might take the following :—"Ilka Blade o' Grass Keps its ain Drap o' Dew," "Castles in the Air," and the "Land o' the Leal." The vein of devotional sentiment contained in the words of the first song is very striking. As Professor Blackie has pointed out, however, the Scottish language has never been the language of the pulpit, otherwise the sentiment of "Ilka Blade o' Grass Keps its ain Drap o' Dew" is entitled to a place in our Church Psalmody. "Castles in the Air" has not only the merit of being a rare combination of music and sentiment of exceptional beauty and pathos, but no other country can claim among its national songs one whose thought and sentiment exactly correspond to this. "The Land o' the Leal" has long been a favourite air, and in society where it was not thought fashionable to sing many of the other songs I have mentioned, because they were not set to music by some German composer, the "Land o' the Leal" has frequently been made the exception. On the authority of the poet Burns, the air now known as the "Land o' the Leal" was attached to Bruce's march at the Battle of Bannockburn, but I must refrain from entering upon an examination of the evidence given in support of this statement, though I have no doubt but the authority of Burns will be to most a sufficient guarantee of its correctness. As has been already stated, the songs of Scotland are capable of a wider classification and a more comprehensive treatment than that which they have here received, such, for instance, as the relative position of Scottish song to the music of England and that of Western Europe

—how she has not only preserved the national features of her own music in spite of many difficulties, but actually saved a number of the finest English airs from oblivion in the sweep of time, when the words which were originally attached to them never could have done so. The sea songs and naval songs of Scotland are also worthy of consideration, though they are much inferior to those of England and several other European countries, but this passing allusion must suffice. There is another point I should like to refer to, and it is this—I have frequently heard accomplished instrumentalists speak lightly of Scottish music, because it has not attained so high a standard of perfection from an instrumental point of view as several other countries which might be mentioned. Such people, however, often move in a small world, and would do well to occasionally resort to introspection and see whether the little knowledge they have acquired has not puffed them up to dangerous dimensions. In fact, the same method of criticism which would condemn Scottish music for this reason, if carried to its logical conclusion, would blast the rose-bud because it had not yet unfolded its petals or put forth its leaves. Scottish music, even in its ballad form, has in it all the essential elements for the loftiest achievements in musical art if composers would only turn their genius in that direction. When we consider the touching sentiment expressed in many of these songs, the natural harmony which exists between sound and feeling, the distance between such an achievement as that of Mendelssohn's "Songs without Words" is not very great. Indeed, Mendelssohn, though a foreigner and unacquainted with the Scottish idiom, when on a casual visit to that country, recognised this fact. His Scottish symphony and overture to Fingal's Cave do not, it is true, rank among his greatest performances, but they are marvellous considering the disadvantages he was under, and showed his appreciation of the rich material which lay undeveloped around him.

Even the efforts of so great a master hand in the art of musical composition as Mendelssohn, serves to show that if this rich material is to be developed to the highest capacity of which it is capable it must be done by some musical composer or composers indigenous to the soil, who can retain all its national features and characteristics. Several attempts have been made to develop Scottish music by composers of other

nationalities, but none of them have quite succeeded. Neilds W. Gade, a Norwegian composer, has made a praiseworthy effort to compose Scottish music, and one would naturally expect that a native of a country with geographical features similar in some respects to those of Scotland, next to a native Scot, would have been more successful, but he has failed to grasp its true spirit, and, indeed, is surpassed by Mendelssohn.

To further illustrate this point. A. Herbert Brewer, an English composer, has attempted to compose Scottish music, and though his setting of one of Burns's songs—"My Love's like a Red Rose"—is not altogether void of beauty and charm, he shows himself to be too much influenced by his native environment to freely adapt himself to the spirit of the Scottish muse. This statement will be better understood by comparing the music Brewer has set to words by Sir Philip Sidney entitled "My True Love hath my Heart," with the setting of Burns's song given above, and, we venture to say, the comparison will justify the critical allusion.

Sir Henry Rowley Bishop, also an English composer of the present century, has turned his attention to Scottish music, and though it cannot be alleged that he has altogether failed, his efforts in this direction do not rank high. "Guy Mannering," one of his operatic entertainments, for instance, cannot be said to possess anything of an original character, but its flowing melody and vivacity of style has always secured for it a favourable reception, though to people of highly cultivated musical tastes its arrangement is defective.

Sir George Alexander Macfarren, whose name is indicative of a Scottish ancestry, but who was born in London and educated at the Royal Academy of Music, though one of the most prominent composers and writers on music of the present century, has not been a great deal more successful in the composition of Scottish music than his predecessor Bishop.

His greatest effort in Scottish music—viz., "The Lady of the Lake"—which was published in 1877, though superior in taste and style to Bishop's "Guy Mannering," is not by any means an extraordinary production, considering the richness of the resources at his command. It will, perhaps, be rather as a writer on the theory of music than as a great composer that Macfarren's fame in the future will rest, at any rate, as far as Scottish music is concerned. This conclusion is justified from

the fact that the enthusiastic reception which was given to the "Lady of the Lake" on its first appearance has already become a thing of the past.

As principal of the Royal Academy of Music, Macfarren was succeeded by Alexander Campbell Mackenzie, a Scotsman and native of Edinburgh. As a composer, Mackenzie is entitled to a place among English composers of the very first rank for the excellent quality of his work. His workmanship is not only thorough, but it is often distinguished for the poetic spirit with which he has interwoven his compositions. With the musical capacity and skill which Mackenzie evidently possesses, one would naturally think that if there is one composer better qualified than another to develop the resources of Scottish music, that composer is Mackenzie, but he has done comparatively little in this direction, nor does what little he has done nearly approach in merit most of his other work. His Scottish rhapsodies especially convey rather an erroneous impression of the resources of Scottish music, though the arrangement of the piece itself may be quite in keeping with the title. The musical training he received in Germany appears to have exercised a marked influence upon his subsequent career, and seems to have prevented him from descending from the Olympian heights of these classical regions to raise the music of his fatherland to a higher level than that on which he found it. If we are to be thankful for small mercies, however, we willingly bow our acknowledgment, but think he might have contributed more than he has done.

Such, then, is the story of Scottish music and song as far as I am at present able to tell it, and it is by no means an uninteresting story even to one from whom Nature has withheld the Divine gifts of music and song. When we consider the obstacles and hindrances with which Scottish music has had to struggle in the past, it gives us some idea of the amount of vitality it must have necessarily possessed, and inspires us with brighter hopes of its future. At all events, we are certain of one thing, and it is this—that the secular branch of Scottish music will not be so much hampered in the future as it has been in the past by the influence of the Church. As one reads into the history of past times, one has to admit that there is much truth in a statement once made by Lord

Salisbury—viz., “that wherever you find any secular institution under ecclesiastical domination it acts as the parasite which eats out its vitality.” We have to remember, too, that however little our great composers may have done hitherto for the advancement of Scottish music from an instrumental point of view, and even though they may have partially failed to grasp the full scope and significance of its national features, by their repeated attempts to do so they have more and more forced the subject upon public attention, and the interest increases gradually, if slowly, in force and volume. It is encouraging to note that no great English composer, for the last 100 years at least, has altogether ignored the subject of Scottish music, and those of her own nationality who are now coming to the front, such as Charles Stewart Macpherson, Hamish M'Cunn, and those who will doubtless come after them, will be impressed with the necessity of still further developing the subject, until Scotland shall be able to raise her undiminished head among her musical compeers, as she now does in the great republic of letters.

WM. M'ILWRAITH.



THE PROPOSED LECTURESHIP.

AT the Federation meeting, held this year at Dumfries (a report of which will be found under its proper heading), Mr. Freeland, in introducing the motion of which he had given previous notice, said—

Before proceeding to read the motion which I shall have the honour to propose, perhaps you will allow me to make a brief personal explanation.

In the first place, it is just forty-eight years since I visited Dumfries for the first time. I was accompanied by my sweetheart, the lady who became my wife, and we had as a guide a middle-aged Dumfries spinster, a member of the Hay family, once well known in this town. She was one of the most beautiful speakers of the Scottish language as it is spoken in the county, where, to my mind, it is more musically breathed than in any other province in Scotland. Her speech would have charmed the ear of Burns.

In the second place, it is with pleasure that I am able to inform the friends gathered here that I have a dear connection with the county of Dumfries. This is how it came about. My wife's grandmother was a native of "The Langholm," as the good old lady used to call it, and it was thus through my wife that I had the honour of being admitted a member of the Glasgow Dumfriesshire Society. You will see, therefore, that in coming here, I am, in a sense, coming home.

In the third place, as I remember, Miss Hay, our gentle guide, conducted us over the town, and by and bye we naturally gravitated to St. Michael Churchyard, where, at the Mausoleum, we brooded over, if we did not actually worship, the memory of the greatest poet of love the world has ever produced. My sweetheart and I were "passionate pilgrims," and Burns was the one poet who had, by prophetic instinct, given adequate expression to our burning affection.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, after all these years, I come to Dumfries to speak a few words, not regarding the personal

history or the poetical genius of Burns, but to show, if I may, how the poet, vastly honoured as he has been, may be honoured in a new, and, as I think, a most commendable form. It may, and possibly will, be said that the national bard has been sufficiently honoured by the innumerable appreciations of his genius that have come from the lips and pens of noble and eloquent men, by the clubs instituted in his name, and by the many statues which have been erected to his memory. I should certainly be the last to undervalue any of these works. Glory be to the editors, the orators, the clubs, the painters, and the sculptors who have toiled in this great cause. But something further, as I do sincerely believe, remains to be done to crown the splendid edifice. I shall here read the motion which, just a year ago, I had the privilege of presenting to the Burns Federation, then assembled at Mauchline. We are here met in a more beautiful town—well-named the Queen of the South—and if not in a poetically more memorable land, yet in an atmosphere as nimble and responsive to appeals in furtherance of the cause which we all have at heart—the vivifying, the strengthening, and the elevating of the nation's love of the national bard. This is my motion:—"That the Burns Federation should, in the name of the poet, seriously consider the question of establishing in one of the Scottish Universities a lectureship for the study of the Scottish language and of Scottish literature and history."

It is only proper that I should refer for a moment to the origin of this motion. Let me say, then, that it sprang out of the objects for which the Bridgeton Burns Club was established in 1870, nearly thirty years ago. The leading terms of these objects are as follows:—"To endeavour by subscriptions, donations, and other means as may be available to establish a fund for the encouragement of the knowledge and cultivation of Scottish literature amongst the children of members, and with a view ultimately to found scholarships at higher public schools and bursaries at the University for meritorious pupils selected from all schools in Glasgow who shall excel in a competitive examination on a portion of Scottish literature previously selected by the club."

No aim, as it seems to me, could be more worthy of a Burns Club. I quite admit, mark you, that all such clubs have been founded for worthy purposes, but it may be claimed

that what may be called the intellectual and literary objects of the Bridgeton Club are fairly unique. You will perceive that my motion is simply a development. From scholarships and bursaries to a lectureship is a natural advance. It is right I should mention that the honour of this suggestion does not really belong to me, but to the Rev. William Leggatt, the Nestor of our club. The idea has since occurred to others, as, for instance, to Professor Saintsbury, of the University of Edinburgh. But I daresay many leaders in the clubs throughout the country and the world have come to believe that some new departure might be made in the general desire and effort to honour the memory of the Poet. The annual commemorations are no doubt excellent; and still more so is the erection of statues, which are embodiments of our admiration. But it seems to me that the statuary form of worship has been pretty well exhausted, and some countenance is given to that view by the efforts of some clubs—an increasing number, I should hope—of encouraging the study of Burns and other Scottish poets among the children by awarding prizes for competency. It is an admirable conception, and, in operation, is bearing good fruit. Not less may be said of the scheme of the Burns Cottage Homes at Mauchline—the happy inspiration of the Glasgow Mauchline Society. But something else, something more commanding, if I may say so, seemed necessary, and hence the suggested lectureship, which should appeal to lovers of Burns and of other Scottish poets, whose songs and ballads have made the name of Scotland famous over the wide world. I sincerely believe that the scheme is one which our beloved bard would himself have heartily approved. He would certainly have been the last to dream of Scottish being a dying language, the literature of which he did so much to enrich and ennoble. A critic here and there may remind us that Burns, in his first “Epistle to Lapraik,” seems rather to undervalue “college classes,” when he talked about certain students going in “stirks” and coming out “asses.” But the saying was true then, and it is true even now. It was a legitimate stroke of satire. Moreover, the notion of climbing Parnassus by dint o’ Greek is as futile now as it was in the days of Burns. It was just Burns’s method of hinting that the poet is born, not made. Right well he knew that, so far as the making of true poetry is

concerned, “ae spark o’ Nature’s fire” was worth a whole university of colleges. Few of his class and time benefited so greatly by such teaching as he received, and I fancy he was the very man who, under favourable circumstances, would have been most eager to attend “college classes.” He would certainly not have gone in a “stirk,” and as certainly he would not have come out an “ass.” He might, indeed, have emerged with his capacities so shaped, enlarged, and directed as to enable him to take his place among the greatest statesmen of his age. The only fear is that the statesman might have spoiled the poet, to the eternal loss of his country and the whole world of song. Happily, God gave us the poet, and He refused to spoil His Divine handiwork by reducing him even to a statesman.

These words by the way. What, it may be asked, about the financial aspects of the proposed lectureship? I need not go minutely into the question, but I may say that a contribution of £50 from 100 clubs would produce £5000, the interest upon which, say at 4 per cent., if that could be obtained, would be £200—a sum which would be sufficient to command an annual series of lectures on the combined and interwoven subjects of the Scottish language, literature, and history. I may here add that some wealthy man, generous and noble of mind, might himself found the lectureship.

Well, sir, you will perceive that the idea of this proposed Burns Lectureship is based upon this three-fold assumption:—(1) That Scottish is a living language, and should be studied and taught in a manner to secure and maintain accuracy of form and purity of sound; (2) that Scottish literature is rich in noble writings in prose and verse, and is, therefore, as worthy of being investigated and taught in universities as English or Gaelic; and (3) that Scottish history is of such vital interest that a clear knowledge of it should be held as imperative and indispensable in a sound Scottish education. It would tend still further to enlighten, inspire, and intensify the patriotic spirit of the nation.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is for these reasons, among many others, that I commend my motion to the whole body of the Federation, and to all the non-federated clubs in every part of the world. I now conclude by declaring that whatever your resolution may be, wise men everywhere will regard

it as a high honour to the Burns Federation that the members should entertain the proposition to establish a Burns Lectureship as an ideal not impossible of achievement. I solemnly beg you to remember that in considering the question, you have among you at this moment a guest whom you may not see, but whose influence you must feel—a spirit who is keeping an eager, yet a kindly eye upon you. The shade of Robert Burns is present !

WILLIAM FREELAND.

At a Meeting of the Committee of the Federation subsequently held at Glasgow, Mr. Freeland was instructed to bring his proposal under the notice of Principal Story. The following correspondence ensued :—

THE VERY REV. PRINCIPAL STORY, D.D.,
THE COLLEGE.

DEAR PRINCIPAL STORY,

For some time past an idea has been growing among the lovers and admirers of Robert Burns, the National Bard, that something like a new departure should be taken in the manner of doing honour to his memory. For that purpose a scheme suggested by myself, that a Burns Lectureship, to be founded in connection with the University, has met with a friendly reception from the Burns Federation, a body founded at Kilmarnock, and consisting of allied Burns Clubs. My proposal raised the question of instituting a Burns Lectureship in the University, by means of which Scottish Literature and Scottish History might be specially studied under the guidance of a competent teacher. We do not, of course, forget the existence of the Chair of English Literature and English History. Our thought is that the analogous Scottish subjects might receive adequate treatment apart from these Chairs.

As Convener of the relative Committee, I have been requested to communicate with you on the question. You, Sir, as the highest authority in the University of Glasgow, might simplify our course by replying briefly to the following questions:—Is such a lectureship necessary to the perfect educational equipment of a Scottish University? Could it be made the means of supplying a form of instruction essential to Scottish students? We are aware that attendance at such lectures could not be made compulsory; and in that case would such a lectureship be likely to have any chance of success if founded in connection with the University? Your briefest possible answer to these questions would determine whether a small deputation to you would be needful.

As to the necessary funds, we should hope to secure these by means of an appeal to the earnest Burns Clubs throughout the world.

Believe me,

DEAR PRINCIPAL STORY,

Faithfully yours,

WILLIAM FREELAND.

THE UNIVERSITY,
GLASGOW, 5th Oct., 1899.

MY DEAR SIR,

I am much obliged to you for your letter of yesterday, and interested in hearing what you say about the views of the Burns Federation. In my Inaugural Address last year I pointed out the want of a Chair of Scottish Literature as not being creditable to our University. Even so accomplished a scholar as our Professor of English Literature cannot be expected to devote to the quite distinct literature of Scotland the criticism and sympathetic treatment it should receive in a Scottish University.

In reply to your questions therefore, I should say that I regard a lectureship such as you describe, and to be connected with the name of Burns, as, if not absolutely necessary, yet as very specially desirable as a means of supplying instruction not at present accessible to Scottish students. The success of such a lectureship would very largely depend on the ability of the lecturer—were he thoroughly qualified for his place I should think he would not be long in drawing a large class of students—although there is no doubt that the modern student seems disinclined to take any class where attendance is not compulsory or necessary for his degree.

The Court has the power of appointing lectureships on any subject. The sum necessary to endow a lectureship should, I think, not be less than £3000, or what would provide an income of £150, apart from fees. Unless a fair salary were offered you would not be able to secure the best man.

I shall be glad to hear from you if your project takes further shape.

Yours very truly,

R. HERBERT STORY.



BURNS'S ODE FOR WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY.

SUNDRY editions of the poets have been somewhat rashly pronounced definitive, but nothing is more certain than that, as yet, to the editing of Burns there is no finality. As much is probably known of him, both as man and poet, as ever can be known, but the immaculate edition of his works has not yet been issued. His editors are exposed to many exceptional dangers. One is a tendency to speculate in quest of originality. A second is the strong desire to affix the label "here first published" to dribblings from his pen, sometimes of doubtful authenticity. A third is most vividly exemplified in the Illustrated Catalogue of the Glasgow Burns Exhibition of 1896. The Burns cult is world-wide. Original manuscripts both prose and verse of his authorship have found their way to well-nigh every quarter of the globe. To consult them all personally is virtually impossible to the most thorough and painstaking editor, and yet the moment he begins to trust to copies he opens a door to error.

The history of Burns's "Ode for Washington's Birthday" is an illustration both of the difficulty of securing perfect accuracy, and of the danger of straining editorial ingenuity. The known facts concerning it are here detailed for the sake of continuity. The basis of the Ode was published by Cromek (1808), and all that is given and said of it in the "Reliques" is here reproduced *verbatim*. Burns wrote Mrs. Dunlop from Castle Douglas on 25th June, 1794. The first paragraph of the letter is omitted as irrelevant. That introducing the Ode is as follows:—

"I am just going to trouble your critical patience with the first sketch of a stanza I have been framing as I paced along the road. The subject is LIBERTY. You know, my honored friend, how dear the theme is to me. I design it an irregular Ode for General Washington's birthday. After having mentioned the degeneracy of other kingdoms I come to Scotland thus:—

Thee, Caledonia, thy wild heaths among,
 Thee, famed for martial deed and sacred song,
 To thee I turn with swimming eyes ;
 Where is that soul of freedom fled ?
 Inmingled with the mighty dead !
 Beneath that hallowed turf where Wallace lies !
 Hear it not, Wallace, in thy bed of death !
 Ye babbling winds, in silence sweep ;
 Disturb not ye the hero's sleep,
 Nor give the coward secret breath—
 Is this the power in freedom's war
 That wont to bid the battle rage ?
 Behold that eye which shot immortal hate,
 Crushing the despot's proudest bearing,
 That arm which, nerved with thundering fate,
 Braved usurpation's boldest daring !
 One quenched in darkness like the sinking star,
 And one the palsied arm of tottering powerless age."

It may be well to direct special attention to three points in Burns's letter—(1) That he viewed the above as a first sketch ; (2) that he had been framing the stanza as he paced along the road ; (3) that he intended to mention the degeneracy of "other kingdoms" before addressing Scotland. It may further be noted that Cromek does not say where he got the letter to Mrs. Dunlop. It was quoted by subsequent editors, and, coming down to Robert Chambers, he reprints the letter and fragment without stating his authority, and without comment. In course of their passage to him, however, both letter and poem underwent sundry changes. The word "paced," for example, in the letter is changed to "passed," and other variants are noted below.

In that position the presumably unfinished Ode remained for nearly eighty years. It was not known whether Burns had reverted to the subject, or had carried out the intention expressed in his letter to Mrs. Dunlop. At length (Scott Douglas, iii., 197), in 1872, a Burns MS. was advertised for sale in a London catalogue in the following terms:—"The original autograph MS. of the 'Ode on the American war,' in sixty-two lines, in three leaves, written on one side only; in good condition, bound in red morocco cover by Pratt, and lettered 'The American War, by Robert Burns.'" It was purchased for Mr. Robert Clarke, Cincinnati, Ohio, U.S.A. Subsequently it passed into the possession of Mr. R. B. Adam,

Buffalo, New York, who acquired the Clarke collection of Burns MSS. The conjoined collections are sometimes referred to as the Clarke-Adam collection. This particular MS. was sent to the Glasgow Burns Exhibition, and in the catalogue forms the seventh entry (p. 152) in the "Adam collection."

The MS. proved to be the "Ode for General Washington's Birthday," in the form in which it appears in the later editions of Burns. Of the circumstances and time of its completion nothing is known. Dr. Josiah Walker visited Burns in October, 1794, and tells us that the poet "repeated also his fragment of an 'Ode to Liberty.'" It may, therefore, be assumed with something like certainty that at least four months elapsed between the first conception of the poem in June and its completion. Equally meagre is our knowledge of the manner of the disappearance of the MS., of its whereabouts during its long submergence, and of the causes leading to its re-appearance in the London auction-room. It was lost and, after many years, was found—and into that sentence is compressed the sum-total of our information. Cromeek, no doubt, gives a hint upon which a theory has been reared. He tells us (p. 161, note) that in a conversation with Mr. Perry, of *The Morning Chronicle*, Mr. Peter Miller, Yr. of Dalswinton, made a full disclosure of Burns's straitened circumstances, and that they agreed upon a plan of settling him in London. "To accomplish this most desirable object, Mr. Perry very spiritedly made the poet a handsome offer of an annual stipend for the exercise of his talents in his newspaper." In a letter dated "Dumfries, November, 1794," Burns, for prudential reasons, sent Mr. Miller a declinature of his "truly generous" offer, a phrase indicating that a position upon the staff of the *Chronicle* was proffered jointly by Mr. Perry and Mr. Miller. In the course of that letter Burns says:—"In the meantime, they are most welcome to my Ode; only let them insert it as a thing they have met with by accident and unknown to me."

What Ode does Burns refer to? Scott Douglas's argument is at least plausible, that it is the Washington Ode, and not, as had previously been supposed, "Scots wha hae," composed in 1793. He adds, with evident reference to the poet's caution, that the authorship of Bruce's Address was already well known, "for the poet had been most liberal in distributing

presentation copies to his friends with his name attached." Upon this supposition the MS. of the "Washington Birthday Ode" must have been handed by Mr. Miller to Mr. Perry. It must then have remained in the hands of his representatives until, in 1872, it passed under the hammer into the possession of Mr. Robert Clarke. The argument is, no doubt, of the speculative order, but it explains the re-appearance of the MS. in London, and the entire matter remains otherwise involved in mystery.

The editors of the Centenary edition reject the above theory without either reason or comment. Mr. Wallace goes further. He argues (iv., 116) that the poem sent Mr. Miller was "Scots wha hae," and not the Washington Ode, but his argument rests upon the manipulation of dates to adapt them to his theory, and a reference to his own hypotheses as if they were ascertained facts. Thus, following Cromek, Scott Douglas ascribes the letter to Mr. Miller to November, 1794. But because Mr. Perry published "Scots wha hae" in the *Morning Chronicle* of 8th May, Mr. Wallace concludes that the letter to Miller was written in May, and that the Ode must have been "Scots wha hae." He then says—"Burns had sent a copy of 'Scots wha hae' to Miller in January preceding." How does he know? The letter only mentions "The following Ode," without naming it; and there is no more reason for believing that the letter was written in January, 1794, than in 1793, under which date it is given by Scott Douglas. We are not, in fact, restricted to a belief that the Odes mentioned in the two letters were one and the same. More than that, Mr. Wallace adduces no authority for carrying back the date of the letter to Miller from November to May. Cromek gives it absolutely, "Dumfries, November, 1794," not as a matter in the balances of argument and speculation, but as a thing beyond doubt or peradventure. But November did not suit Mr. Wallace's view, to further buttress which he brushes Scott Douglas and the Washington Ode aside to make way for "Scots wha hae."

It does not appear to have occurred to Mr. Wallace that the converse argument is at least equally strong. Cromek was the first to publish the letter to Miller. He dates it without hesitation. We cannot, therefore, without cause shown, deny him credence. Inasmuch, then, as "Scots wha

hae" had been published in the *Chronicle* in May, and Burns refers in his November letter to Miller to "my Ode," it stands to reason that the reference could not by any possibility have been to "Scots wha hae," and must needs, therefore, have been to the "Ode for General Washington's Birthday." So the argument works both ways, according to the weight attached respectively to Cromek's unqualified statement and to Mr. Wallace's theory. Between them the question of authority lies.

In all likelihood, Burns's interest in the subject was revived either by Dr. Josiah Walker's visit in October, or by some other extrinsic cause or incident, and that, taking up the original fragment early in November, he gave the Ode its present form. He would appear, in any event, to have worked hurriedly under some sudden access of inspiration. He did not even settle upon a title. At the head of the poem in Mr. Adam's MS. stands the single word "Ode." Its usual designation, "Ode for General Washington's Birthday," is taken from the Dunlop letter. Then again, the name of Washington does not occur in the Ode avowedly written in his honour. There are, furthermore, throughout the poem obvious traces of effort, or straining after an effect not quite within the Poet's reach. Of that the explanation may be that, in 1794, Burns was thinking a great deal more about France than about Washington and the American struggle for independence. Finally, Burns did not, even in the finished Ode, if in its present form it can be called finished, carry out the sketch of his intention contained in the Dunlop letter. He does not mention the "degeneracy of other kingdoms." He merely lauds the American Union, rebukes England, laments the decadence of Scotland, and leaves "other kingdoms" for some future occasion. These several matters point to hasty composition under a swift and unreined impulse. This view of the subject may be worthy of consideration, but it is offered and must be taken as purely adscititious.

The editorial treatment of the general subject, and more particularly of the final publication of the finished Ode, is no-wise remarkable for accuracy. Scott Douglas, for example, at III., p. 194, follows Chambers in substituting "passed" in the Dunlop letter for "paced," but adopts the latter word at VI., p. 130. Thereafter he wanders far and wide. He

says that Currie only knew the closing paragraph of the Ode, beginning as above, and "published it as portion of the letter to Mrs. Dunlop." It does not occur at all in Currie's edition of 1800, and when Douglas prints the letter he accordingly credits it, not to Currie, but to Cromek. In a note to the complete poem Douglas promises to give the variations "in the author's correspondence—Letter to Mrs. Dunlop." The letter appears without any note of variations. In giving the complete Ode in Paterson's Library edition of Burns (1877), Douglas credits it to his own Kilmarnock edition of 1876.

In the new Chambers, Mr. Wallace gives no information as to the source from which he obtained the complete Ode, and by some most unfortunate mischance prints a seriously mangled version of it. Douglas says the owner of the manuscript "kindly forwarded to our publisher an accurate transcript of the original," from which, nevertheless, his version slightly varies. In the Centenary edition the entire Ode is given, with this note—"The sketch was published in Cromek's 'Reliques' (1808). The complete Ode appeared in *Notes and Queries*, fifth series, vol. I. (March, 1874), pp. 242-3, from a MS. now in the Clarke-Adam collection. It was reprinted in Scott Douglas (III., 1877)." The editors go on to say:—"This was not—as Scott Douglas supposed—the Ode which Burns permitted the proprietors of *The Morning Chronicle* to insert as a thing they have met with by accident." They do not tell us, however, what that Ode was. They dismiss the matter with a bare assertion, giving, as previously noted, no reason for the faith that is in them.

Reverting to the publication of the Ode, it finally reached the public by a somewhat roundabout course. When Mr. Clarke got possession of the MS., he placed it on exhibition in Cincinnati. Subsequently he communicated the fact of his having acquired it to Mr. A. M. Stewart, of the *Scottish American Journal*, New York. Soon afterwards the MS. was forwarded by Mr. Clarke to the *Journal*. It was then laid before the late John Robertson—a brother of the late Professor Robertson, of Glasgow University—who at once pronounced it the long-lost Ode. It was first published in the *Journal* of 9th October, 1873, with this note prefixed—"The following is the complete text of the heretofore unpublished Ode, written by Robert Burns, the original of which we referred to last

week as being exhibited at Cincinnati Industrial Exposition by our countryman, Mr. Robert Clarke."

The successive publications run thus:—

- (1) *Scottish American Journal*, 9th October, 1873.
- (2) *Notes and Queries*, March, 1874.
- (3) James Grant Wilson, in "The Poets and Poetry of Scotland," 1876 (Harpers'). Wilson says he copied it from Burns's original manuscript, but does not mention the owner.
- (4) Scott Douglas (Kilmarnock edition), 1876.
- (5) Scott Douglas (Edinburgh edition), 1877.

More important than deciding the honour of first giving the Ode to the world is the ascertainment of its correct text. That matter, thanks to the courtesy of Mr. R. B. Adam, his enthusiasm touching everything relating to Burns, and his special interest in the present enquiry, the *Chronicle* is in a position to set at rest once and, it is hoped, for all time. To confirm and supplement the catalogue description of the MS., and to show how zealous have been Mr. Adam's endeavours to give readers of Burns an accurate and authoritative version of the Ode, a letter from him to Mr. A. M. Stewart with a copy of the MS. is here given:—

I send you herewith a correct copy of the "Ode," and I believe it is as correct, in every particular, as it is possible for a copy to be. Only a photographic facsimile could be more so. And if your correspondent would appreciate and use such a facsimile I will have one taken. In the enclosed copy I have verified every word. The corrections from *brave* to *dare*, and from *once* to *which*, are as they appear on the original in the poet's handwriting. The MS. consists of three single leaves, same size as my copy, and written on one side only. The large hand of the poet fills up the pages. The three leaves are inserted in a red morocco cover, lettered on the outside:—

THE AMERICAN WAR,

BY

ROBERT BURNS,

and marked on the inside of cover,

"BOUND BY W. PRATT
for H. Stevens, 1872."

That copy is made upon paper measuring $7\frac{3}{8}$ inches across, and 9 inches from top to bottom.

Mr. Adam's kindly offer of a "photographic facsimile" was, of course, accepted for reproduction in the *Chronicle*. It has,

Ode

No Spartan tale, no Attic shell,
 No Lyre or Volcan I awake;
 This Liberty's bold note I swell.
 Thy harp, Columbia, let me take.
 See gathering thousands, while I sing,
 A broken chain, exulting, bring.
 And dash it in a tyrant's face!
 And ~~break~~^{dash} him to his very beard,
 And tell him, he no more is feared.
 No more the Despot of Columbia's race.
 A tyrant's proudest insults braved,
 They shout, a People freed! They hail an Empire saved

There is Man's godlike form?
 There is that brow erect & bold,
 That eye that can, unmoved, behold
 The wildest rage, the loudest storm,
 That e'er created fury dared to raise
 Against! thou crafty, servile, base,
 That tremblest at a Despot's nod,
 yet

Yet, crouching under th' iron rod,
 Canst land the arm that struck th' insulting blow
 Art thou of man's imperial line?
 Dost boast that countenance divine?
 Each sulking feature answers, NO!
 But come, ye sons of Liberty,
 Columbia's offspring, brave as free,
 In danger's hour still flaming in the van:
 Ye know, & dare maintain, The Royalty of Man

Alfred, on thy starry throne,
 Surrounded by the tuneful choir
 The Bards that erst have struck 'the patriot lyre,
 And roused the freeborn Briton's soul of fire,
 To move thy England own. —
 Dare injured nations form the great design,
 To make detested tyrants bleed?
 Thy England execrates the glorious deed!
 Beneath her hostile banners waving,
 'Every pang of honor braving,
 England in thunder calls—'The Tyrant's cause is mine.'
 That

That hour accurst, how did the fiends rejoice,
 And hell thro' all her confines raise th' insulting voice
 That hour which saw the generous English name
 Linkt with such damned deeds of everlasting shame!

O'er, Caledonia thy wild heaths among,
 Stained for the martial deed the heaven-laught song,
 To thee I turn with swimming eyes -
 Where is that soul of Freedom fled?
 Immingled with the mighty Dead!
 Beneath that hallowed turf where Wallace lies!
 Dear it not, Wallace, in thy bed of death!
 Ye babbling winds in silence sweep
 Disturb not ye the hero's sleep,
 Nor give the coward secret breath!
 Is this the ancient Caledonian form,
 Firm as her rock, restless as her storm?
 Shew me that eye which shot immortal hate,
 Blasting the Despot's proudest bearing
 Shew me that arm ~~which~~ ^{which} nerved with thundering fate,
 Braved Houspation's boldest daring!
 Dark-quenched as yonder sinking star,
 No more that glance lightens afar;
 That palsied arm no more whirled on the waste of war.

however, been found necessary to reduce it in size to that of the *Chronicle* page. In all other respects the reproduction is identical with the original. In view of the discrepancies between existing editions, the course taken seemed the only one by which to prevent any dispute about the true text. It must needs satisfy every reader that he is in possession of the Ode exactly as Burns left it. The alterations mentioned by Mr. Adam are also worthy of note.

As to the various editorial departures from the original MS., they form a suggestive list. The copyist for the *Scottish American Journal* succeeded in introducing into the version published in that paper a number of glaring errors, all the more regrettable as through the *Journal* the Ode was first given to the world. James Grant Wilson's mistakes are unimportant and venial—a few literals and an oversight in the division of the stanzas. In the fragment sent Mrs. Dunlop, Chambers changed Cromek by making *the* take the place of *that* in the line, "Beneath that hallowed turf," &c. He also substituted, *Disturb ye not* for *Disturb not ye*. Both errors are corrected in the new Chambers. In Scott Douglas's "accurate transcript" of the complete Ode, we have in the twelfth line of the closing stanza, "Firm as *the* rock, resistless as *the* storm"—curtly pronounced an erroneous reading in the Henley-Henderson note upon the poem. For *braved*, in the fourth line from the end, both Scott Douglas and the Centenary edition have *crush'd*. As for Mr. Wallace's version of the Ode, the closing lines of it are given in full:—

In this the ancient Caledonian form,
Firm as her rock, resistless as her storm?
Show me that arm which, nerv'd with thundering fate,
Crushed Usurpation's boldest daring!
Dark-quench'd as yonder sinking star,
No more that glance lightens afar,
That palsied arm no more whirls on the waste of war.

The first word of the quotation the dullest of readers might have seen was a mistake for *Is*. *Crush'd* again takes the place of *braved*. Worse than these discrepancies is the entire omission of the two lines beginning "Show me that eye." Both the sense and the rhyme are, of course, thereby spoiled. The reference to the eye is necessary to give meaning to the *glance* in the second last line, and the ear

claims rhymes to *fate* and *daring*. How, after correcting Chambers's alterations upon the fragment, an editor so careful as Mr. Wallace committed a mistake in the finished Ode, which entails the mutilation of the poem, is a mystery. This is set down with a regret too profound to be here dwelt upon. For as no other Life of Burns is to be spoken of in the same breath with Mr. Wallace's, so, marred as it is, his edition of Burns's prose and verse remains incomparably the best.

In another matter connected with the Ode, Mr. Wallace has adopted a view which, if not wholly untenable, has very little to recommend it. In 1796, "The Minstrel at Lincluden" was published in Johnson's "Museum." It begins "As I stood by yon roofless tower," and has the chorus—

"A lassie all alone was making her moan,
Lamenting our lads beyond the sea ;
In the bluidy wars they fa', and our honor's gane and a',
And broken-hearted we maun die."

The last verse is :—

"He sang wi' joy his former day,
He weeping wail'd his latter times ;
But what he said it was nae play—
I winna venture't in my rhymes."

In a note to "The Minstrel at Lincluden" Scott Douglas says :—

"The above is the poet's first version of a sublime lyric, which he ultimately left on record under the title, *A Vision*, in which some changes are made in the text, and the chorus is excluded. Our country was at that period at war with the French Republic—a war which Burns bitterly deplored, although circumstances compelled him to set a seal on his lips as to those unlucky politics."

"*A Vision*" was published by Currie in 1800. It is unnecessary to give in detail the several points of difference between it and "The Minstrel." Aside from the abandonment of the chorus, it may, however, be mentioned that the name of "Libertie" is given to the ghostly minstrel, that the opening verses are identical, and special emphasis must be laid upon the retention in "*A Vision*" of the closing verse of "The Minstrel," quoted above, "He sang wi' joy," &c. Currie says in a note—

"This poem, an imperfect copy of which was printed in Johnson's 'Museum,' is here given from the poet's MS. with his latest corrections.

The scenery so finely described is taken from nature. The poet is supposed to be musing by night on the banks of the river Cluden, and by the ruins of Lincluden Abbey." . . . "Though this poem has a political bias, yet it may be presumed that no reader of taste, whatever his opinions may be, would forgive it's being omitted. Our poet's prudence suppressed the song of 'Libertie,' perhaps fortunately for his reputation. It may be questioned whether, even in the resources of his genius, a strain of poetry could have been found worthy of the grandeur and solemnity of this preparation."

From these sentences it becomes virtually certain that (*pace* Scott Douglas) if Dr. Currie had seen the letter to Mrs. Dunlop, he did not associate "A Vision" with the fragment of the Ode contained in the letter. The Centenary editors only print "The Minstrel," under the title of "As I stood by yon roofless tower," reserving for a Note the variations in "A Vision"; and it may further be interpolated that the idea of any connection between "A Vision" and the Ode does not appear to have presented itself to them.

The three poems, in fact, or the two versions of the Lincluden lyric and the Ode, were printed separately down to the Philadelphia *Self-interpreting* edition of 1886. Mr. Wallace may be allowed to explain the view of the American editors, Messrs. Hunter and Gebbie, and its influence upon himself. They claimed "to be able to announce that we for the first time present to the world the perfect poem."

A more absurdly bumptious claim was probably never formulated. "The Minstrel at Lincluden" was published in 1796; "A Vision" was published in 1800, and the finished Ode in 1873, and yet upon the strength of an assumed, and demonstrably fictitious, connection between them, the Philadelphians take to themselves the credit of first publishing "the perfect poem." They are entitled to the honour of mooting a preposterous theory, and the pity is that Mr. Wallace should have been misled by it. Here is the passage from the new Chambers (IV., 124):—

"They (the American editors) conjecture that the 'Ode to Liberty' (or 'Ode for General Washington's birthday') was the song the minstrel sang. 'A very careful study' led them to conclude 'that Burns . . . produced the two pieces as a connected whole and nearly at a sitting; but that he must have immediately afterwards seen that it would be unsafe to publish them in that form, and therefore added a verse to the 'Vision' or prelude:—'He sang wi' joy his former day,' &c. This he did to give an air of completeness to what would otherwise have appeared a fragment."

Mr. Wallace is not satisfied with the "air of completeness," but adds—

"This theory is, owing to its intrinsic reasonableness, adopted here. 'The Vision' shows in itself [in spite of its 'air of completeness,'] that it was intended as prelude to another poem. Besides, the two pieces are in perfect harmony."

The objections to the theory may now be summarised:—

First.—The three poems are all ascribed to the year 1794. The American war lasted from 1775 to 1783, when Great Britain acknowledged the independence of the United States. It is not, therefore, to be gratuitously supposed that the lassie all alone was "Lamenting our lads beyond the sea" in America, eleven years after the war in America was over, provided we can find an explanation of her moaning nearer home, and more nearly contemporaneous. At this point, we revert to Scott Douglas's reference to the war with France quoted *supra*. "In the bluidy wars they fa'" would, upon that suggestion, be applicable to the waste of British blood in the struggle with the Republicans of France, and not at all to the long-past campaign in America. In such fashion, an absolute divorce is arrived at between "A Vision" and the Washington Ode.

Second.—"A Vision" is invariably attributed to musings by Lincluden ruin. Burns says he meditated the Ode as he paced along the road to Castle-Douglas. The discrepancies between the fragment sent Mrs. Dunlop and the passage as it appears in the finished poem are such as to add weight to the credibility of Burns's statement. This is said although his perfect accuracy in similar cases is occasionally open to question. We must, accordingly, get rid of either the Lincluden fancy, or of Burns's assertion, or of the Philadelphian theory. If we allow the ruin and the road to remain, and continue to read the poems separately, it is impossible to avoid the humorous aspect of the American hypothesis, that they form a connected whole, done "nearly at a sitting."

Third.—The theory compels the dissipation of the "air of completeness" investing "A Vision." It becomes necessary to follow Mr. Wallace in lopping off the verse which brought "A Vision" to a suitable conclusion as an independent poem. Otherwise the poet would contradict himself. He would, that is, declare "I winna venture't in my rhymes," and straightway

proceed with "No Spartan tube, no Attic shell," &c., the first line of the Ode proper. Currie speaks of the judicious suppression of "Libertie's"—the Minstrel's—song; the American editors prune the text of Currie to fit it to their theory of a connection between "A Vision" and the Ode. It is, once more, amusing to imagine the Minstrel singing the prelude to the tune of "Cumnock Psalms," as in Johnson, and falling into recitative on reaching the Ode.

Fourth.—Let us read over again the description of the MS. in Mr. Adam's possession, and then consider this question—If Burns intended "A Vision" to be an essential part of the Ode, why did he not include it in that MS.? It cannot be pled that he omitted it, lest the authorship of the Ode should be discovered by a reference to "The Minstrel at Lincluden" in Johnson. The latter was not published until 1796; the Ode is ascribed to 1794, and upon the Scott Douglas hypothesis was offered for publication through Mr. Miller almost immediately upon completion. To that year there are at least two reasons for thinking that it belongs. One is that, otherwise, Burns did not finish the Ode while the spirit that was on him at the time of his writing Mrs. Dunlop still lingered near, ready to spring into activity upon the slightest inciting cause. The second is that if the Washington Ode be in very truth that mentioned in the November letter to Mr Miller, it must have been finished in the earlier part of that month. The *crux* of the argument, however, is that Burns did not include "A Vision" in the MS. of the finished Ode.

To sum up, none of the leading editions of Burns contains an accurate rendering of the text of the Washington Ode; none traces it to its first publication; Burns left no material for forging a bond between "A Vision" and the Ode; the Philadelphian theory adopted by Mr. Wallace is both absolutely baseless and intrinsically unreasonable.

EDWARD PINNINGTON.

BURNS IN DUMFRIESSHIRE.

A BURNS pilgrimage in Dumfriesshire can have but one starting point—the unpretentious little farm house of Ellisland, where the Poet first had a home and “wife o’ his ain.” The house is there still as the Poet lived in it (in spite of the statement taken on trust by Dr. Wallace), although the original front door has been built up, and a new one



Ellisland.

opened entering into a kitchen, tacked on behind. Small as it was—a kitchen, room, and bedroom, all no doubt fitted with box beds, and in addition a small garret above reached by a ladder—it must have been bien and snug, and fit to compare with his neighbours, while the pleasant situation on a bend of the winding Nith, with charming views all round, and the then friendly houses of Dalswinton and Friars’ Carse but a short distance away, would all tend to make the early days bright and hopeful. Yet, within a month, in writing to Dr. Moore, he

doubts the wisdom of his bargain. Alas! that he did not get a fertile kindly holding, such as abound on Nithside, instead of sterile Ellisland which required such a heavy outlay for improvements.

It is the custom to belaud Miller of Dalswinton as a miracle of virtue, genius, and invention, still one may be allowed to be heretical enough to suggest that he saddled the Poet with a dear, bad farm of cold, barren land, costly to work; and that his proffers of help and support began and ended with supplying stone and lime for the building of the farm house. Burns himself fairly puts it, "Mr. Miller's kindness has been just such another as Crouch's—but this for your private ear:—

His meddling vanity, a busy friend,
Still making work his selfish craft must end."

Although dwelling at the very extremity of the straggling Parish of Dunscore, Burns could not help identifying himself with, and taking an active part in, kirk and parish matters; and we know he was promoter, treasurer, librarian, and censor of the Friars' Carse or Monkland Library; but the Rev. Mr. Kirkpatrick's bigotry and intolerance soon disgusted him, and he does not seem to have found many friends among the slow-going farmers of the country side. Diligent inquiry has failed to elicit any farming traditions, and although there are rumours extant of excessive expenditure—of too many servants, and of intermittent industry—the Poet's want of success may more truly be set down to poor land, unexpected outlays, and the impossibility of constraining Pegasus, with wings already tried, to drag the heavy plough. A small contribution towards bucolic literature we cull from the Old Statistical Account, where the minister writes, "The black cattle in general are of the Galloway breed, but Mr. Robert Burns, a gentleman well known by his poetical productions, who rents a farm in this parish, is of opinion that the west country cows give a larger quantity of milk." But the Poet's career as a farmer soon came to an end, being first supplemented and latterly well nigh supplanted by the gaugership of eleven parishes, extending over an area of 24 miles in length and 17 miles in breadth, covering an indefinite number of square miles which the curious can work out for themselves

from the Ordnance Surveys of the Parishes of Kirkcconnel (15 miles long, 8 broad), Sanquhar (18 by 5), Glencairn (15 by 3½), Dunscore (12 by 3½), Durisdeer, Morton, Penpont, Keir, Tynron, Closeburn, and Holywood. As very possibly Kirkmahoe was included, we may imagine the amount of work devolving on the Excise Officer of "the Dumfries First Itinerary." In the whole breadth of the County there were but three Itineraries, with three Foot Walks, and stations for Dumfries and its immediate neighbourhood.

Persistent as was the Poet's ill luck, he had it in double measure when placed at the extreme corner of his long, wide district, necessitating the maximum length of journey and official effort. Well might he write of riding 200 miles a week; it would have been impossible to overtake his work with less; and his evenings at home must, therefore, have been few and far between.

The duties, though taxing and onerous, could not be called important. The district comprised a Royal Burgh, that of Sanquhar, townships such as Moniaive and Thornhill, and many small villages, but did not at that time embrace any manufactories, general breweries or malt-houses, nor leather or glass establishments. At Sanquhar there were brickworks; and it is stated (Brown's History of Sanquhar) that there existed at one time a brewery and two tobacco manufactories, but their dates are not given. Certainly there were no concerns yielding a revenue sufficient to make the ride one of consequence, or a productive one in allowances or rewards to swell the official's meagre pay. Consequently Burns's Excise duties would be mainly preventive. All spirits, rum, brandy, whisky, or other customable or excise goods, passing through his station, or delivered to persons residing in it, would need a permit, as also spirits sent from inns and public-houses to private residents. All fairs and markets required to be attended in order to levy duty on beer or porter brewed for the occasion by persons not regularly licensed.

Searching auld wives' barrels,
Och hon the day,
That clarty barm should stain my laurels!

Setting forth on his journeys, mounted on Jenny Geddes, or Peg Nicholson, or Young Pegasus, "as good as ever trod on airn," as each would need to be for the long journeys by doubtful

roads, he must first call at Auldgirth Hotel, just across the fine stone bridge, then newly erected over Nith, a pleasant little inn with latticed windows, still in its original state, with cosy kitchen and some of the furniture and ware surviving from the Poet's day. Thence to Closeburn, the old home of the Kirkpatricks, forebears of the Empress Eugenie, and of Charles Kirkpatrick Sharpe of Hoddam, poetaster and violinist, with whom Burns had some passages of wit. In his day it was the property of the Rev. Sir James Menteth (who thought enough of the Poet to emulate his library scheme), and managed by Willie Stewart,



River Nith.

father of the “lovely Pollie,” and brother-in-law of Bacon, who kept the Brownhill Inn, a favourite howff. In Closeburn there resided also Kirsty Kirkpatrick or Flint, that sweet-voiced dame to whom the bard brought his songs for trial. He had many friends among the farmers, whom he visited crossing the Deil's Dyke—but Burns was no antiquarian nor, as we shall more particularly see, was he a Covenanter,* for he often passed the Crichton Linn, a wild, sequestered, but beautiful dell, the noted hiding place of Balfour of Burley, and the scene of the

* As qualification to this see his lines on “The Solemn League and Covenant.”—(Ed.)

stormy interview with Henry Morton. Thence on to Thornhill, the Dalgarnock of "Last May a braw wooer," noted for its fair or tryst, and the place most often visited in his rounds. It is a beautiful village, overshadowed by Drumlanrig and the night of the Queensberry and Buccleuch. What eventful nights must he have spent in the hotel, when lairds were about, or in the quaint and modest Plough Inn, when farmer, ploughmen bodies were the favoured! Here lived Widow Kate Watson, who one Fair day received such an unofficial-official warning; and near by was blest John M'Murdo, friendly chamberlain of the detested Duke, old Q., "so dear to the Powers of Darkness." It was M'Murdo who voluntarily became trustee for the Poet's widow and children in the black days that came. From here all Burns's roads diverged. Business might lie by the Carron to Durisdeer and the Gateslack or Lang Glen, nestled in those rounded swelling hills, green to the top, which lead to Dalveen and its passes. Probably his favourite journey was to Glencairn, reminiscent of his beloved patron, and containing two houses at which he was a welcome guest, those of Sir Robert Lawrie of Maxwellton and Alexander Ferguson of Craigdarroch, victor in the Homeric contest for the Whistle. Bonnie Annie Laurie was long dead, but her fabled charms had surely not then been handed down in the well-known song else the theme had inspired him. A more lovely spot than Maxwellton and the whole district at the head of the Cairn can scarce be found, and the quaint village of Minuyhive (or Moniaive as now written) had many attractions. To reach it Burns must needs ride by the picturesque and craggy hills of Tynron and its Doon, with calls at the villages of Penpont and Tynron, and a queer story as to this appears among the papers of the late Dr. Grierson, of Thornhill, who garnered and annexed many important Burns papers and relics for his Museum—a place the Burns pilgrim should not fail to visit. It purports to have been taken down from a Mrs. Wallace, widow of a Thornhill weaver, born 1788, died 1863. Her father, James Hastings, was servant to the Rev. Mr. Keyden, of Penpont, and had occasion one morning to take his horses to the blacksmith's forge at Townhead. Passing through Penpont he observed a scuffle in front of the public-house kept by Mrs. M'Math. One man was lying on the ground calling for assistance. Thinking it a drunken brawl, Hastings paid no attention; but passing on

to Townhead he observed some horses on the Corsegate, or Corseroad, laden with barrels; and afterwards learned that the affray had been between Burns the Exciseman and a party of smugglers. Hastings was afterwards summoned before the Justice of the Peace Court at Thornhill to answer for refusing to give aid to Burns when called on. Burns prosecuted, and Hastings having given the above excuse was acquitted. The public-house in question was pulled down and rebuilt some years ago, but the date stone is preserved in the new building, bearing the initials T.M., J.M., 1733—Thomas and Janet M'Math. The story cannot be authenticated by any Court Record and therefore falls to be taken for what it is worth. It sounds fictitious, but, if true, it throws a lurid light on the difficulties of the Excise service of that period, which were apparently much more serious than the arm broken by a fall from the Poet's tired nag, or the many minor misunderstandings with publicans, smiths, ignorant clodpoles, insolent travellers, funeral corteges, &c., of which we have more or less authentic traditional record. From Moniaive, his road home, if he so intended, would be by the water of Cairn through Dunscore. It was at Dunscore village, or Cottack, as it used to be called, that the pleasing game of the auld wife's numbering her threads was played for the benefit of an indefinite "Janet"—"Thou's ane, and thou's no ane, and thou's ane a' out." As this is one of Allan Cunningham's tales, in which he drags in decent Lewars as Burns's companion—whose official business was confined to Dumfries—it may be set down as of equal value with many others from the same source. And so to Ellisland, and the loving wife and fine family, "the only good things of this life to which the farm house and cottage have an exclusive right," and, we will hope, a portion of the fine fare he proffers to a guest, "a piece of good old beef, a chicken, or, perhaps, a Nith salmon fresh from the weir, and a glass of good punch."

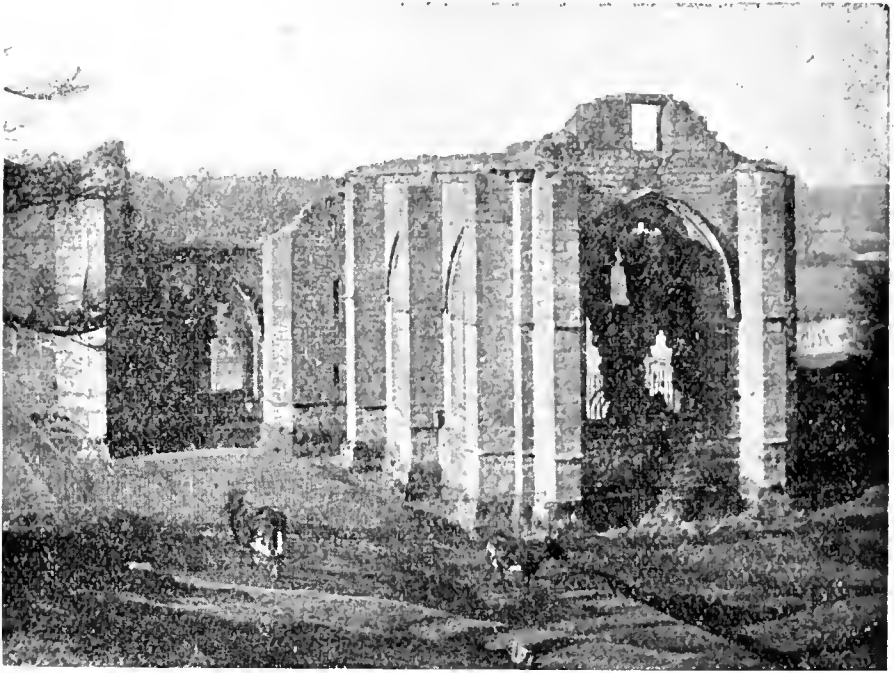
But Burns's chief and most troublesome journeys were to Sanquhar, Kirkconnel, and remote points in the north of the county, such as out-of-the-way Wanlockhead. In good weather, passing through Enterkin glen, Crawick, Mennock, Euchar, and the many charming spots so glowingly described in "Burns and Upper Nithside" (*Chronicle*, No. V., page 86) was pleasant enough, and gave rise to many songs. "Nor do I find my hurried life greatly inimical to my correspondence

with the Muses. I meet them now and then as I jog through the hills of Nithsdale, just as I used to do on the banks of Ayr. I enclose the productions of my leisure thoughts in my Excise rides." At Sanquhar alone, as has been mentioned, was there a manufactory involving Excise supervision, and possibly a brewery, and here were the chief fairs of the district, at which his presence was indispensable. These were three in number—the Herd or Hiring Fair at Candlemas, the great July Lamb and Wool Fair, once nearly rivalling Perth and Inverness, and the Onion Fair at Martinmas. Numerous would be the stalls or booths at which beer, sma' ale, tippenny, and porter would be on sale, and that by people of the town and countryside who held no regular license, and took advantage of such occasions to turn both an honest penny and a doubtful one out of the black bottle or stone jar that would accidentally find its way in; but probably the gauger, knowing the futility or inexpediency of trying to raid so many, would be content with the small dues on the brewings, might even "tak' a dram" as a corrective to such thin and sour stuff, till the time came to adjourn to friend Whigham's, there to meet—since "a'body gaed tae Sanquhar Fair"—not only Johnstone of Clackleith, Rigg of Crawick Forge, but also that literary smith, John Taylor, who needed a song before he could spare time to prevent poor Pegasus slipping and stumbling on the frosty moorland road to Wanlockhead. And one might safely bet a boddle there were times when the sound of the fiddle, the merry laugh, and the thud of fantastic toes of Penny Reelers in the open space around the Town House would drag the company from the punch-bowl, when mayhap some giggling, red-cheeked, red-haired wench would be honoured with a turn with one of the world's Immortals. Seeing how often Burns was at Sanquhar, does it not seem strange that the traditions of that place, the scene of the two Declarations of the Solemn League and Covenant by Richard Cameron in 1680, and the martyr Renwick in 1685, called forth no song or patriotic piece? And that leads us to the limitations, and peculiar omissions of Burns. Dumfriesshire was full of memories of the Covenant, its heroes and martyrs. Balfour of Burley, and the hiding-places of himself and many others in Crichton Linn have been mentioned. There were Martyrs' monuments in Irongray, Glencairn, and Dumfries Kirkyards; while Burns

must have heard of, probably met, that strange fantastic anachronism, Robert Patterson, "Old Mortality." Another of Scott's heroines, Helen Walker, the Jeanie Deans of undying memory, was actually alive within three miles of the Poet's home; while the Routin Bridge, that lovely spot where her ill-fated sister Tibbie Walker ("Effie") drowned her child, was on a road he often traversed, and not far from the ruined tower of the accursed Grierson of Lag. The Communion Stones, a weird spot on Irongray Muir, may not specially have come under his notice; but Eliock, birthplace of the Admirable Crichton, and many other historic places he undoubtedly visited. Here, indeed, were subjects for the Bard—subjects which, one would think, were after his own heart. How, then, were they all neglected? How is it that the numerous local, picturesque, topographical touches which adorn his Ayrshire poems are so lacking in his Ellisland writings? Why is it that only the Nith, his daily companion, comes in for special notice? The answer is not far to seek, and is all-sufficient—overwork! That unremitting attention to official duty, farm duty, and home duty, which has been too little recognised, too much slurred over in favour of more sensational but less true explanations is, to my mind, the only explanation.

Take a pilgrimage over the wide district thus roughly and briefly outlined, join in spirit with that lofty soul, cribbed, cabined, and confined by hard fate yet bursting forth continually in song that has enriched and ennobled the world, and come back with him wearied and worn to that fireside at Ellisland which he tended so carefully and well. Think of the disillusion and disappointment, the failure of the farm; the business cares, "the supreme curse of making three guineas do the work of five;" the responsibility, annoyance, and frequent odium incidental to Excise work, the labour of composition, of correspondence, of transcribing. Let any one in these circumstances try to write a dozen copies of Tam O'Shanter for distribution among friends! It is in this way alone that a just and true estimate can be formed of one of the most misrepresented of men; and an unbiased, dispassionate judgment can only end in wonder, admiration, and respect. Happily the Ellisland period possessed many compensations. An assured position as a recognised poet, a farm, a house, a well-regulated household, unclouded family life conducted in a douce, well-ordered

manner, family worship, instruction, books, and the pleasure of a country life with its Hallowe'en, Kirn, and Hogmanay festivals ; a succession of welcome visitors, of strangers anxious to meet the Scottish Bard ; the congenial atmosphere of Friars' Carse with Mr. Riddell, Captain Grose, the lovely Deborah Davies, and others. Then there were occasional jaunts to Moffat, of a character to call forth the glorious "Willie Brewed" ; to Lochmaben, equally famous for festive functions—a town, by-the-way, of which Burns calls himself a burges, though no other record exists—and to the theatre at Dumfries. Sad it is



Lincluden Abbey.

that all these comparatively innocent enjoyments had to come to an end, to be succeeded by the darker years at Dumfries.

Settling down in Dumfries in the unpretentious but respectable house in the Wee Vennel, now Bank Street, Burns took up that Port Division for which he had applied to Mr. Corbet, Supervisor General of Excise. His confidently expressed opinion of promotion to a supervisorship (1790) had faded away, and he started as an ordinary Excise officer in charge of Dumfries Third Foot Walk, being subsequently removed to the First. Both stations were in the town, although the Brigend (now Maxwelltown) was probably included in one or

other of the three Foot Walks. The traders under Excise supervision were common brewers, victuallers, publicans, &c., brewing for their own trade and requirements; chandlers, tanners (there being a duty on leather), tawers—*i.e.*, dressers of white leather, maltsters, papermakers, dealers in wines, spirits, tea, and tobacco. The dealers involved the most work in the shape of charging the licence duty, granting permits or certificates, besides seeing that the duty of Excise and Customs was properly charged on the stocks in the traders' possession. Tea, brandy, and foreign wines and spirits were customable goods, but in transit inland to traders, or in dealers' stocks, the Excise had charge and jurisdiction. All these articles, together with salt, were largely "run" by smugglers along the Solway shore, and carried overland to the towns and to Edinburgh, and Burns would be employed out of the town when efforts were made to check a smuggling raid, as happened on the famous occasion when, waiting off Carsethorn to board a vessel, he composed "The Deil's awa' wi' the Exciseman"—that amusing satire on his trade and colleagues.

Dumfries needs no description, and the ever-debated questions of his life and conduct there are, fortunately, outwith the scope of this article; but with all deference to the well-meaning gentlemen who, consciously or unconsciously, shut their eyes to stern facts, we may be allowed to express grave doubts whether, after the unfortunate French Revolution outbursts, Burns ever really entertained hopes of official advancement. Certainly on more than one occasion he was acting as a supervisor at Lochmaben and elsewhere, but that would be an ordinary duty in the absence on leave or illness of Findlater. Still, in Dumfries as in Nithsdale, the Burns pilgrim may learn much of interest and instruction as to the Poet's life and character, much that will cause him to disbelieve the published exaggerations and slanders, and much that will clear the people of that fine old town of any neglect or lack of appreciation. It is not so long since men were living whose most cherished memory was that in childhood they had looked upon the Scottish bard as he went about his daily avocations; and it is beyond dispute that most of the discreditable stories and apocryphal legends took their rise far away, and are not supported or warranted by local evidence or tradition. The testimony of his widow, of Syme, of Maxwell, of Maria Riddell

(to whose large-hearted forgiveness is due the finest character sketch we possess, penned but a few days after his death), should surely outweigh the credulity of Currie, the wild imaginings of Allan Cunningham, the vindictiveness of the Unco Guid, and of their modern successors in the garbage hunt.

The Burns lover and pilgrim, who has traced his course through Nithsdale, walked the plainstones of Dumfries, stood among Cluden's silent towers, wandered down the Nith to



Caerlaverock Castle.

Caerlaverock or Sweetheart Abbey—stately ruins of chivalry and monasticism whereon he graved his initials—will return to St. Michael's Auld Kirkyard, and humbly, devoutly, return thanks for a national blessing, for a pure spirit of Patriotism and Song which (in the words of a noble tribute) “has soared to its accepted place among the fixed stars in the firmament of the rare Immortals.”

PHILIP SULLEY, F.S.A.

DOCUMENTS BEARING ON GILBERT'S DEBT TO THE POET.

THE following documents, which are here first published, were the property of Messrs. J. D. and C. Wilson, of Maxwelltown, Dumfries, in whose family they have been an heirloom for three generations, having been acquired by their father through a female relation who seems to have been an intimate friend of the Poet's family. They are now the property of the Corporation of Kilmarnock, and are deposited in the Burns Museum of that town. A writer in the *Glasgow Herald* of 11th December last gives the following summary of their contents:—

Burns's exact financial position on his deathbed is fortunately preserved in a series of documents, mostly in the autograph of his brother Gilbert, which recently came under the notice of the writer, and which do not appear to have seen the light before, though they were on exhibition in Dumfries in 1880, when funds were being raised for the local statue of the Poet. The documents are ten in number, the most interesting being a statement of the financial position of Gilbert as at the date of his brother's death, when the trust-estate was formed for behoof of Jean and her children; another, showing the accounting between Gilbert and the Poet between 1792 and 1797, the balance owing being acknowledged over Jean's signature; and third, a corrected copy of the foregoing brought down to May, 1798, also signed by Jean, and containing a declaration signed by Gilbert and William Thomson, writer, on behalf of the trustees. Gilbert's debt was not discharged till 1820; another of the documents, in the form of a letter from Gilbert to Jean, bringing out the balance owing as at 16th December, 1820, at £220, 7s. 6d. It has hitherto been the general impression that Gilbert repaid his loan of £200 by a single payment on receipt of his editorial fee for the edition of Currie which bears his name; but that is not the fact. If, as has been often stated, the loan was granted in 1788, it is certain that the bill was drawn out on 21st December, 1792, from which date down to the death of the Poet, Gilbert credits himself with "per contra" sums in apparent accordance with a verbal agreement come to between them. Some of these entries are exceedingly interesting. For instance, we learn that the Poet paid regularly for the "bed, board, washing, clothes, books, and school wages" of "dear bought Bess," who was brought up by his mother and Gilbert. He

also seems to have settled an annuity upon his mother, the sum of £5 being charged against him under that head down to the very day of his death. The exact balance owing by Gilbert when the Poet died is set down at £183, 16s. 7d.; immediately following the death, however, sundry payments on behalf of the family, including an advance of 10 guineas to the widow, reduces the balance to £158, 15s. 5d., as at September 1, 1796. A man dying in 1796 with an assured asset of £184 (again contrasting values) could scarcely be considered as in the lowest depths of poverty unless overwhelmed on the other hand with debt. To Gilbert's statement of accounts is luckily appended a list of all the debts owing by his deceased brother as at September 1, 1796, and which were paid by him, doubtless after public advertisement in some form or other. In this list does not appear the draper's bill which had caused the Poet so much concern, and which probably had been discharged in the interim. The total amount of the Poet's debts is £14, 15s., including the butcher and other tradesmen, thus leaving a free balance of £170 for the widow and children. Among these accounts appears one in name of a "Dr. Brown," amounting to £2, 3s., which has all the appearance of a payment for medical attendance. No information has yet been obtained of the identity of this gentleman. The point is more important than appears on the surface, for if it is established that Dr. Maxwell attended Burns in his last illness only in the capacity of a private friend, the medical evidence adduced by Dr. Currie is open to more serious question than it has hitherto been subjected to. Till something more definite is known of this Dr. Brown, however, conjecture is profitless, but the point is certainly worth following out.* From other entries we learn that the grave of Burns cost 2s. 6d., the mortcloth 3s., and that the sum of 5s. was paid for the tolling of the town bells. Gilbert was continually reducing his debt by payments in kind, and these became more frequent when he removed to Dinning, the family of the Poet being supplied with cheese, barley, &c., down to 1809; for though Gilbert went to Moreham Mains in 1801, his brother-in-law, John Begg, was left in charge of the farm down to the former date. From first to last Gilbert paid, in round figures, £112, in name of advances and goods supplied, besides £182 at the rate of 5 per cent. compound interest, as shown by his own accounting, which, with the repayment of the principal sum, makes a gross total of £495 paid by him in discharge of the bill granted in 1792. This is no despicable sum, and it was rendered more valuable to the widow and children on account of its having assumed the character of a profitable investment. When the debt was finally discharged in 1820, Jean was in such comfortable circumstances that, at her request, the £200 odds was paid to the eldest son, Robert, who had involved himself in pecuniary embarrassments in London, and whose appointment in the Stamp Office was thereby placed in jeopardy.

It is also an article of current belief that Gilbert, being the more prudent of the two brothers, was the more successful from a worldly point of view. Whatever may be embraced in this assertion, it is certain that he

* In Dr. Findlay's "Burns and the Medical Profession," it is stated that Mr. Brown, surgeon, and Dr. Maxwell were the medical attendants during the Poet's last illness.

was hard pressed for money all his life. He died in 1827, and in 1820 he expresses fears of his ability to discharge his bill in full, notwithstanding the windfall which had come to him. In the beginning of 1798, when called upon by the Poet's trustees for payment of his debt, he lodged a statement of his affairs, from which it appears that his liabilities were £491 and his assets £420, exclusive of his household furniture. Eventually, the trustees agreed to grant him time on condition that he paid £50 to account, a sum which he fell short of by £10, he having previously exhausted his Ayrshire friends, as is evidenced by the statement just referred to. So straitened were his circumstances at the time that he actually applied to the trustees for a loan from the funds in process of being raised for behoof of his brother's family, which application was apparently refused, as we find no subsequent reference to it. From 1809 till 1820 he did not pay a farthing towards the reduction of his debt, either in cash or in kind, the obvious inference being that he was unable. His accounting with his brother's family, nevertheless, proves him to have been a thoroughly honest man down to the minutest monetary details, and he never pleaded poverty, save in the indirect way referred to, when the trustees, in discharge of their duty, threatened him with legal diligence. He had his mother and a family to support, and it is more than likely that the emoluments of his factorship were not on an extravagant scale. All things considered, there need be no hesitation in saying that the Poet's worldly circumstances, after the dissolution of partnership at Mossgiel, were always infinitely superior to Gilbert's.

The signatures of Mrs. Burns to the two documents in the collection are specially valuable as settling a question which has often been discussed. The only other authenticated signature of Jean known to the writer is that in the Session record of Mauchline, the genuineness of which has been called in question by at least one professed Burns expert, whose opinion is that the Poet signed vicariously for his wife. That is entirely erroneous. Though in the Mauchline instance she signs "Jean Armour," and in the two instances under discussion "Jean Burns," the maiden name affords sufficient grounds for judgment. It is written in a bold, heavy hand, the form and character being uniform and unmistakable in all three. Whatever speculation may be advanced on her handwriting in 1788, it can scarcely be maintained that the Poet was in a position to make good the defects of her education two years after he had gone to his rest. There have been shown alleged specimens of her handwriting in her later years which are really the work of an amanuensis, her right hand having been rendered almost useless by the paralysis from which she suffered for so many years before her death in 1834.

GILBERT BURNS TO WILLIAM THOMSON.

MOSSGIEL, 30th April, '98.

Sir,—I received your's of the 23d curt. I will either pay the bill due by me to my deceased brother or renew it with such caution as may be accepted, as soon as it is in my power, meantime as there were some accts.

betwixt my brother and I (*sic*) unsettled at the time of my brother's death and as I have paid some funeral and other accts. since and advanced some money for the family, I intend being in Dumfries towards the end of May or beginning of June in order to settle these and will then take such measures for settling the bill as may be agreeable.—I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

GILBERT BURNS.

Mr. William Thomson, Writer, Dumfries.

STATE OF GILBERT BURNS, 30TH MAY, 1798.

1798.

LIST OF DEBTS DUE BY G.B.

30th May.

To my brother's family a ballance (<i>sic</i>) of my bill,	. £165	0	0
To my mother by bill £70 with interest £2,	. . . . . 72	0	0
To Jean Brown by bill £16 with a year's interest,	. . . . . 16	16	0
To Margaret Blair, ballance of a Bill, . . . . .	. . . . . 12	12	0
To Mr. Lamie by bill £25 with a year's interest,	. . . . . 26	5	0
To Patrick Robertson by Bill, . . . . .	. . . . . 8	8	0
To John Duncan by bill, . . . . .	. . . . . 80	0	0
To Mr. Alexander, half of last year's rent which by his usual mode of collection ought to be paid the end of June, . . . . .	. . . . . 35	0	0
To the current year's rent £70 with public burdens, .	. . . . . 75	0	0

£491 1 0

Besides these there are some open accts. which my cash in hand and accts. owing me will nearly ballance (*sic*).

My cattle, crop, and farming utensils, if sold at a fair price, ought to bring at least, £420 0 0

Deficiency, £71 1 0

In this I do not include my household furniture, family provisions, &c.

JOHN M'MURDO TO DR. MAXWELL.

MILNHEAD, 31st May, 1798.

Gentlemen,—Mr. G. Burns has just now called upon me to say that at your meeting with him last night, and upon his exhibiting a State of his debts and funds, you had communicated to him your determination that he must pay in a few weeks £50 to account of extinguishing his debt to his Brother's family, else to proceed to immediate dilligence against him.

On looking at his State which he has laid also before me, I am still more impressed with the opinion that indulgence is the only probable mode of his being able to pay his debt to his Brother's family, at the same time if you can make any arrangement with him short of bringing his affairs to a Bankruptcy I shall be extremely well pleased.

He seems to think, by August, he will be able to raise £40 among his friends in Ayrshire, and if he can do so, I am perfectly satisfied in all views

of prudence he ought to be indulged with the time. I would have personally waited on you this forenoon but am particularly engaged.—Believe me, sincerely, Dear Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

JNO. M'MURDO.

Doctor William Maxwell, Dumfries.

JAMES FERGUSSON TO WILLIAM THOMSON.

MONKWOOD, October 2d, 1798.

Sir,—Had I been at home when your letter arrived, or received it sooner, you would have heard from me without loss of time.

I am convinced that Gilbert Burns as a friend and relation, even in a prudential point of view, is worthy of every confidence and indulgence which his circumstances may require, and Mr. Tennant in Auchenbay, whom I know, is perfectly sufficient for your security, even were he the sole cautioner. So far therefore as I am entitled to offer any opinion I have no hesitation in saying that I think the money he wants may be safely and properly lent to Gilbert Burns.—I am, Sir, with respect, your faithful and obedient servant,

JAMES FERGUSSON.

GILBERT BURNS TO WILLIAM THOMSON.

MOSSGIEL, 26th Oct., 1798.

Dear Sir,—I have been for some time anxiously expecting a letter from you announcing the fate of my application to the Trustees of my brother's family for the money I mentioned to you. If they have come to a determination in that matter, be so good as let me know what it is, if they have not, I beg you will bring the matter before them as soon as possible. It would be very convenient for me to have the money by the tenth of next month if I am to get it.—I am, Dear Sir, your most obedient servant,

GILBERT BURNS.

STATE OF DEBT.

GILBERT BURNS TO HIS BROTHER'S FAMILY, 1798.

STATE OF ACCTS. with my brother at the time of his death and with his family since till 7th Septr., 1797.

1793.	Dr. to my brother by bill 21st Decr., 1792,	.	£200	0	0
21 Decr.	Interest due on this sum, . . . . .	.	10	0	0

£210 0 0

Paid of this sum—

By a year's annuity to my mother allowed by my brother to be paid her out of the interest of his money in my hands,	£5	0	0
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Carry forward, . . . £5 0 0 £210 0 0

	<i>Brought forward,</i>	£5 0 0	£210 0 0
	By a year's bed, board, and washing to Elizabeth Burns my brother's natural daughter,	6 10 0	
	By clothes, books, and school wages for ditto,	0 14 6	
	By 12 st. 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. cheese in July & Octr. 1793,	4 1 4	
		<hr/>	
		£16 5 10	<hr/> <hr/>
1794.			£193 14 2
Decr. 21.	Interest on this sum due at this date,		9 13 7
			<hr/>
			£203 7 9
	Paid by a year's annuity to my mother,	£5 0 0	
	By a year's maintenance of E. Burns,	6 10 0	
	By clothes, school wages, &c., for ditto,	0 13 7	
		<hr/>	
		£12 3 7	<hr/> <hr/>
1795.			£191 4 2
Decr. 21st.	Interest due on this sum,		9 11 2
			<hr/>
			£200 15 4
	Paid by a year's annuity to my mother,	£5 0 0	
	By a year's maintenance of Eliz. Burns,	6 10 0	
	By clothes, school wages, &c., for ditto,	0 17 4	
	By 12 lb. cheese Septr. 14th, 1795,	0 5 4	
	By 4 days of a man and horse bringing Mrs. Burns to Machline, Sept. 1795, at 3/ per day,	0 12 0	
	By cash given Mrs. Burns while in Machline towards payt. of her daughter's funeral,	1 6 0	
	By 4 days of a man and horse on Mrs. Burns return to Dumfries, at 3/ per day,	0 12 0	
		<hr/>	
		£15 2 8	<hr/> <hr/>
			£185 12 8
July 1.	Interest due on this sum,		5 8 4
			<hr/>
	<i>Carry forward,</i>		£191 1 0

	<i>Brought forward,</i>	£191	1	0
	Paid by 7 months' annuity to my mother,	£2	18	4
	By 7 months' maintenance of Eliz. Burns,	3	15	10½
	By clothes, &c., for ditto,	0	10	2½
		£7	4	5
1796.		£183	16	7
July 21.	Dr. to my brother's family at his decease as per state on the other page, £183, 16s. 7d.			
	Paid by cash on acct. of my brother's funeral—			
	James M'Ghie for riding express to Machline,	£1	8	0
	Grave 2/6, Mort-cloth 3/, Bells tolling, 5/,	0	10	6
	Express to Caerlaverock 1/, given Mrs. Burns 1/,	0	2	0
		£2	0	6
		£181	16	1
Sept. 1st.	Interest due on this sum,	1	0	2
		£182	16	3
	Paid at this date sundry accts. as per state and receipts to the amount of	£15	0	0
	By 2 st. 9½ lb. cheese,	1	2	5
		£16	2	5
1797.		£166	13	10
Feby. 15.	Interest due on this sum,	3	16	4
		£170	10	2
	Paid at this date by cash to Mrs. Burns,	£10	10	0
		£160	0	2
Sept. 7.	Interest due on this sum,	4	10	0
		£164	10	2
	Paid Mr. Syme's expences (<i>sic</i>) and my own traveling (<i>sic</i>) from Whitehaven on acct. of my brother's family,	£4	5	0
	By 3 st. 12 lb. cheese,	1	15	0
		£6	0	0
		£158	10	2
	Mistake in charging the accts. paid Sept. 1st, 1796, with a year's interest,	0	5	3
		£158	15	5

Dumfries, 30th May, 1798. I, Jean Armour, relict of the deceased Robert Burns in Dumfries, having examined the preceeding (*sic*) accts. or State, do hereby attest that it consists with my knowledge that the whole of the charges made by Gilbert Burns previous to my husband's death are just and agreeable to my husband's order thereanent; and also that the sums charged since that period are in like manner just, excepting the article of Four pounds five shillings, the particulars of which I am not acquainted with, and I approve of the bill above mentd. being settled agreeable to the above.

(Signed) JEAN BURNS.

*and order thereanent and also
that period are in like manner
responds five shill. the part
I am acquainted with & I approve
settled agreeable to the above
Jean Burns**

AMOUNTS PAID FOR MY BROTHER'S FAMILY, 1 Sept. 1796.

To Mr. Rae, Taylor,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	£1	12	0
To Mrs. Richardson, Butcher,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	4	0
To Walter Scott,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	0	11	0
To James Turner,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	0	12	0
To John Lawson,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	0	0
To Mr. M'Cornock,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	10	6
To Mr. Georgeson,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	0	14	0
To Dr. Brown,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	3	0
To Mrs. Chalmers,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	0	11	0
To Mr. Armor for cheese purchased in Machline,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	17	6
									£14	15 0

STATE

BETWEEN GILBERT BURNS AND THE FAMILY OF ROBERT BURNS, 1798.

This is a copy of the foregoing in William Thomson's autograph, bringing down the balance to May 31st, 1798, which, by the addition of £5, 15s. 7d. of interest from 7th Sept. to date, is made out to be £164, 11s.

* From a photograph by Mr. Hugh Montgomerie, Kilmaurs.

There are a few minor corrections, as, for instance, where Gilbert credits himself with £15 as payment of the outstanding debts of the Poet as at Sept. 1st, 1796, Mr. Thomson credits £14, 15s., the exact amount according to list appended to Gilbert's own balance sheet.

Appended to Mr. Thomson's statement of accounts are the following declarations:—

- I. The above I give as the State of my debt to my brother's family and refer to a docquet subjoined to a separate copy signed by Mrs. Burns, widow of my brother, attesting the verity of the deductions stated by me.

(Signed) GILBERT BURNS.

*... is that the sums charged
are in like manner
the article of Fourpence
particulars of which I am
well. and I approve of the
and being still a reasonable
Jean Burns*

- II. This is followed by a docquet, signed by "Jean Burns," which is a verbatim copy of that already given at the end of Gilbert's statement. At the left hand side appears the following voucher—"The said sum of four pounds five shillings stg. I certify to have been duly expended as stated in the acct."

(Signed) JOHN SYME.

- III. The foregoing State having been examined by the said Gilbert Burns in Mossgiel, and by William Thomson, Alcat (?), writer in Dumfries, factor *loco tutoris* to the children of the deceased Robert Burns late in Dumfries, they find the calculations to be just and that upon the supposition of the said Gilbert Burns being found entitled to an allowance of the sums brought to his credit in the foregoing State, the balance due by him on his bill for Two hundred pounds to the said Robert Burns dated the eighteenth day of December MVIIC and ninety-two years payable one day after date will in that case be only one hundred and fifty-eight

pounds fifteen shillings and fivepence halfpenny Ster. bearing interest from the seventh day of September MVIIC and ninety-seven years. But as regards the said Gilbert Burns has vouched for only a few of the articles brought to his credit in the preceeding (*sic*) the said William Thomson does not consider himself, acting as factor *loco tutoris* for the pupills (*sic*), entitled to allow credit for sums that are not legally vouched, however just he may suppose them to be, yet in the circumstances of the case he agrees to supersede payment of the contents of the said bill all but the above balance of one hundred and fifty-eight pounds fifteen shillings and fivepence halfpenny Ster. with interest thereof from seventh day of September last either until all the pupills (*sic*) shall arrive at the age of fourteen years when they will be entitled to judge and determine for themselves whether the unvouched articles shall be allowed or not, or until that point shall be determined by a Court of Law. It being understood and declared by both parties that nothing contained in this docquet shall hurt or prejudice the claims or objections of either party so far as regards the articles brought to the credit of the said Gilbert Burns in the preceeding (*sic*) State. But that his claim for allowance thereof and all objections competent against the same are hereby sacred and reserved entire to the said Gilbert Burns and to the said William Thomson and his pupills (*sic*) respectively, and that no prescription shall run against either party until a complete settlement of the contents of said bill shall take place. In witness whereof this docquet written upon this and the preceeding (*sic*) page by John Dickson, clerk to the said William Thomson, is subscribed by us at Dumfries this twenty-seventh day of August one thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight years before these witnesses the said John Dickson, and Durant Glen, writer in Dumfries. It being hereby admitted by the said William Thomson that upon the sixteenth day of July last he received forty pounds sterling from Mr. Burns in part of the aforesaid sum, the receipt of which was acknowledged by letter of eighteenth July last.

(Signed) WILL THOMSON.

GILBERT BURNS.

Darand Glen, *Witness*.

John Dickson, *Witness*.

GILBERT BURNS TO WILLIAM THOMSON.

GRANT'S BRAES, 16th Novr., 1820.

Dear Sir,—I see by an advertisement that there is at present a vacancy in the Grammar School of Dumfries. William Begg, my nephew, the oldest son of John Begg whom you knew at Dinning, has been offering himself to Messrs. Gray and Carson for that situation, and I write at present principally to request your influence on his behalf as far as you may find such exertion consistent with your duty. William was educated at Wallace Hall, was always a very diligent, attentive, and successful

scholar, and has since shown great steadiness in every pursuit he was engaged in. Though silent in his manner he is a young man of good talents and expresses himself well in writing. His father, by the advice and in expectation of some patronage and assistance from the Hopes of Craigie-Hall (in whose service he was after leaving Dinning) had William educated for a Surgeon. During the second winter of his attendance in Edinburgh for that purpose his father met his death by his horse rearing and falling back upon him, leaving my sister a widow with nine children, of whom Wm. was the oldest.

We continued him, however, another year attending the medical classes when, after having received a more complete medical education than most young men when they apply for a diploma as qualified to act as Surgeon, the termination of the war put an end to our expectation of employment in that line for him. As it was necessary for him immediately to do something for his own support, as well as to assist his mother to maintain the other children, he engaged with Mr. Cooper, School Master at Dalmeny (which has long been celebrated as a school for boarders), as his Assistant. After being there two years with Mr. Cooper I advised him to stand Candidate for the parish school of Ormiston in the neighbourhood that he might have a house and a home for his mother and the younger children. He has been in that situation about three years, and was succeeded at Dalmeny by a younger brother, but still there are six of the children live with William and his mother, so that you see there are a number of persons interested in the success of this application.

There is another subject in which I stand much in need of your advice and assistance. I at last find myself in a situation to pay or nearly to pay my debt to my brother's family, if settled on proper principles. A State was fitted between you and me to the end of May 1798 and docketed by Mrs. Burns, leaving a balance due by me at that date of £164, 11s. In July of that year I remitted to you £40 as part payment of that balance.

I have a distinct State of articles furnished for Mrs. Burns and family from that period to March 1801, when I removed to this country, amounting to £13, 7s. 2d. During the time I possessed Dinning afterwards to Whity. 1809 I know Mrs. Burns got cheese, barley, potatoes, &c., fully to the amount of £3 a year, but I find John Begg has not kept a distinct account of these things. In these circumstances what ought I to do?

I have written to Mrs. Burns on the subject and I have been thinking of writing each of her sons with a State made up from the above data, requesting them to agree to my debt being settled on these principles and give directions for the bill being given up to me on my paying what may appear due on that State to any person they choose to appoint.

May I request your writing me soon on these subjects, and state (shortly) how the account stands between you and my Brother's family. Mention likewise whether you have got some odds and ends of my matters, of which I wrote you some time ago, Mrs. Potter's acct., &c., &c., settled. With best wishes for you, Mrs. Thomson and family.—I remain ever, my dear Sir, yours faithfully,

GILBERT BURNS.

William Thomson, Esq., Writer, Dumfries.

Private.

GRANT'S BRAES, 1st Decr., 1820.

My Dear Sir,—I wrote you on the 16th of last month putting some questions to you respecting the practicability of getting my debt to my brother's family settled to which I should have been glad to have received your answer. Since that I have received a letter from Mrs. Burns which makes me more urgent to have your opinion and if possible get the matter settled. I had written her some time ago informing her that I had lately got £200 which I could spare for settling that debt, but as that sum was a little short of the whole principal and interest due the family by me, and great part of my accts. against the family not being vouched in so completely a legal manner as could warrant your settling it with me, it would be necessary to have the consent of her and all her sons to my bill being given up for that sum. This she most readily consented to, and said she had no doubt all her sons would be equally ready to consent to. I deferred writing to my nephews on the subject till I could hear your opinion respecting the mode of my proceeding in the matter. Mrs. Burns informed me some time ago that her son Robert had been very imprudently engaged in some speculations (the nature of which I am not informed of) which had brought him into embarrassed circumstances, and that she had from time to time sent him such supplies of money as she could spare. She wrote on the 28th ult. that she had lately been informed by a brother she has in London that Robert's debts were not yet all paid, that his creditors are clamorous, and that he was in danger of being imprisoned for debt which would of course deprive him of his situation in the Stamp Office. Mrs. Burns is therefore anxious that this £200 should be applied for Robert's relief, and certainly almost any sacrifice ought to be made rather than he should be thus involved in complete ruin and starvation. Thus you see that we have not time to receive the consent of my nephews in India. Is not Mrs. Burns entitled to the third part of this sum, and would her and Robert's request to you to give up my bill as part of the share of the common property of the family be a sufficient security for you giving up the bill; for you will certainly allow that in justice to myself and family I cannot pay the money without at least having my counter accounts acknowledged? I beg you will write me fully on this subject with as little delay as possible. I defer writing Mrs. B. till I receive your answer, and you may be well aware she is very anxious for my answer. She appears anxious to conceal Robert's misfortunes as much as she can, and probably will not approve of making you acquainted with them, but I judged it necessary you should know the urgency of the matter.—I remain ever, my dear Sir, yours sincerely,

GILBERT BURNS.

GILBERT BURNS TO MRS. BURNS.

GRANT'S BRAES, 7th Dec., 1820.

Dear Sister,—The information contained in your last two letters respecting poor Robert's embarrassments occasioned me a great deal of pain. I would have written you sooner but had written Mr. Thomson at the same time I wrote you respecting my wish and ability to pay £200 for

the extinction of my debt to my Brother's family, and I wished to hear from him before writing you. It was necessary to correspond with him on the subject as my bill being in his hand I could not pay the money without first learning whether I could get up the bill. On the receipt of your last letter I immediately wrote Mr. T. again, mentioning the way you wished to apply the money, and as that plan could not admit of the delay of hearing from your sons in India, I asked him if he would consider himself authorized to give up my bill on you and Robert requesting him to do so and to place it to your and his share of the funds belonging to the family. I this day received his answer which he had delayed as he wished to see you before writing me, but finding you were not at home, and that the matter would not admit of longer delay, he writes me as follows:—

“I conceive that if you and she adjust the amount of the furnishings made by you to the family by a docqueted account, there can be no hesitation in settling the bill and giving it up to you on payment. Neither do I see that with you and Mrs. Burns undertaking to me for the two absent sons of the family that they will approve, I can have any difficulty of allowing the amount of your debt when paid to go to the relief of Robert. As to Mrs. Burns I should think the trustees would consider her entitled to one-third of the sum, though I do not recollect that anything was ever settled by them on that point.”

A State of my debt was made up by Mr. Thomson to the 30th May 1798 docqueted and signed by you and me when my debt to the family was reduced to £124 11 0

Interest on that sum to the 30th May

last, £136 19 0

Deduct property tax on do., 7 17 0

129 2 0

£253 13 0

By amount of cheese, potatoes, &c., &c.,
furnished for your family to the 16th

March 1801 when I left Dinning, . £13 7 2

The articles you received from Dinning
since I came to this country I have
not a distinct account of but suppose
they would amount to £3 a year from

March 1801 to March 1809, 8 years, . 24 0 0

37 7 2

£216 5 10

By this statement which I know is very near the truth the amount of my debt at the 30th May last would be two hundred and sixteen pounds 5/10 and the interest due since will make it up about £220. It will be necessary to consult Mr. Thomson what sort of Mandate from Robert he will require to enable him to settle the matter and as I see I will have room to spare on the next page I will there state the amount as above that you may tear it off and give it Mr. Thomson that he may make up a formal

state and docquet it in the way he thinks right. If you are not already informed of the amount of Robert's debts you should get a state of them from himself and information how it is proposed to apply the £200 to his relief whether by dividing it among his creditors to accelerate the settlement of his debts or to get his yearly allowance increased. You had better advise with Mr. Thomson respecting this matter, he is able to give you sound advice and he seems so much affected by Robert's distresses (though very partially informed of them), that I think he will be disposed to give you every assistance in his power.—Your's, dear Sister,

GILBERT BURNS.

P.S.—I shall expect to hear from Mr. Thomson or you soon.

STATE OF DEBT

DUE BY GILBERT BURNS TO THE WIDOW AND FAMILY OF HIS
DECEASED BROTHER ROBERT BURNS.

1797.

Sept. 7th. Balance of G. B.'s bill as per docqueted Acct., £158 15 5½

1798.

July 16th. Interest on that sum to this date, . . . 6 15 5¾

£165 10 11

Paid at this date to Mr. Thomson, factor *loco*
tutoris for children, 40 0 0

£125 10 11

Interest from that date to Decr.

16th, 1820, £140 2 1

Deduct property tax, 7 18 4

132 3 9

£257 14 8

Amount of articles furnished to Mrs. Burns
and family, 37 7 2

Leaving of principal and interest due 16th Decr. 1820, . £220 7 6

If Mr. Thomson can make up a state from the above which he thinks will pass and get it docqueted by Mrs. Burns I will send a bill due in London for the money that it may the more readily be applied to the intended purpose and any guarantee for the approbation of the 2 absent sons wanted.

G. B.

Mrs. Burns, Dumfries.

D. M'NAUGHT.

BURNS AND THE LEGAL PROFESSION.

THIS paper was suggested by the able and interesting book of Dr. Findlay, entitled *Burns in Relation to the Medical Profession*. It is an attempt to submit something of the same kind, though less elaborate, in regard to the legal profession, compressed within the limits necessary for an article suitable for the *Burns Chronicle*.

Burns seems to have had a very poor opinion of the legal profession, although there is nothing to show that it was in his day behind the general code of honour and morality then existing. The law in his time was certainly far from perfect. It was slower, costlier, and more oppressive than it is now, but in hardly any respect was it worse than the time itself. The high-strung poet (who certainly suffered under certain harsh legal operations) may be forgiven for the following unflattering samples of his views :—

View unsuspecting Innocence a prey,
As guileful Fraud points out the erring way,
While *subtile Litigation's pliant tongue*,
The life blood equal sucks of Right and Wrong.

Writing of his father he says—"His all went among the hell hounds who prowl (or growl) in the Kennel of Justice"—doubtless a grossly exaggerated way of stating an unfortunate but inevitable fact.

Then take this :—

What is right and what is wrang,
By the law ?
What is right and what is wrang ?
A short sword and a lang,
A weak arm and a strang,
For to draw.

And this (which probably represents his own occasionally wild view) from the "Jolly Beggars"—

A fig for those by law protected,
Liberty's a glorious feast,
Courts for cowards were erected !

In "Passion's Cry" the Poet speaks of "the violence of legal strife." In the "Ode to the Departed Regency Bill" he scouts—

Dread Thurlow's powers to awe,
Rhetoric, blasphemy, and Law.

In an interesting letter to Peter Hill, the bookseller, the following sarcastic passage appears:—"Though I have mentioned so many men of law, I shall have nothing to do with them professedly—the faculty are beyond my prescription. As to their clients that is another thing. God knows they have much to digest." In an equally caustic spirit the Poet wrote in the "Brigs of Ayr"—

Men wha grew wise priggin' owre hops an' raisins,
Or gather'd lib'ral views in bonds and seisins,
If haply knowledge, on a random tramp
Had shor'd them wi' a glimmer o' his lamp,
And would to common-sense for once betray'd them,
Plain, dull *stupidity stept kindly in to aid them.*

And again in "Scotch Drink"—

When neebors anger at a plea,
An' just as wud as wud can be,
How easy can the barley bree
Cement the quarrel!
It's aye the cheapest lawyer's fee,
To taste the barrel.

"*Rigid Law*," he exclaims, when bewailing the fate of the Stuarts, "cries out, '*Tw'as just*.'"

Apostrophising Fergusson, he says—

Oh Fergusson thy glorious parts
Ill suited Law's dry musty *arts*.

The Poet is more complimentary when, in addressing Robert Graham, he says that nature in creating man shapes the merely useful people first, and then come the "grave designs" of "Law, Physic," &c. ; and in another poem he couples "Decency and Law." Burns had no high regard for the law makers. In "Guid morning to your Majesty" we read—

Far be't frae me that I aspire,
To blame your legislation ;
Or say, ye wisdom want, or fire
To rule this mighty nation.
But faith, I muckle doubt, my sire,
Ye've trusted ministration,
To chaps wha in a barn or byre
Wad better fill'd their station
Than Courts yon day.

His views on taxation may be judged from many strong expressions, a number of which are quoted in Dr. Mitchell's *Burns and his Times*. He specially objected to the proposed tax on riding-horses.

“Thro’ dirt and dub for life I’ll paidle,
Ere I sae dear pay for a saddle,
Sae dinna put me in your buke
Nor for my ten white shillings luke.”

Before his appointment to the Excise his views were—

“Thae curst horse leeches o’ th’ excise
Wha mak’ the whisky stells their prize.”

He voiced the woes of those fighting against the Lon’on parliament’s

“ curst restrictions
On Aqua Vitæ,”

but denounced the “blackguard smuggler” for tempting

“Puir plackless bodies like himsel’
Wi’ bitter dearthfu’ wines to mell
Or foreign gill.”

Though no profession gave the Poet more and stauncher friends than the law—and that in every town where he was best known—Ayr, Mauchline, Edinburgh, and Dumfries—Burns frequently took the rustic, prejudiced view of lawyers, and rarely missed an opportunity to have a shot at their expense. In “Tam o’ Shanter” he talks in the expurgated lines of

“Three lawyers’ tongues turned inside out
Wi’ lies seemed like a beggar’s clout.”

On the clever but possibly unscrupulous Dumfries attorney he executed this stinging epitaph :—

Here lies John Bushby, honest man,
Cheat him Devil gin ye can.

Again we see him denounce the men who

“Ply every art of legal thieving.”

In the “Brigs of Ayr,” the Auld brig, when bewailing the degeneracy of the times, remarks

“And (what would now be strange) ye *godly* writers !”—

a phrase which naturally calls to mind his recollection of “drucken Writers’ feasts,” in “Lines on meeting Lord Daer.” To a lawyer who remarked that some of the language of

“Tam o’ Shanter” was obscure, Burns is said to have retorted : “Obscure, Sir? you know not the language of the great Master of your own art, the Devil. If you get a witch for a client you will not be able to manage her defence.” Again, when Burns undertook the management of a small parochial library, his friend Gordon, the writer, on criticising the language of the rules drawn by the Poet, was told—“Had I employed a Dumfries lawyer to draw them out, he would have given me bad Latin, worse Greek, and English spoken in the fourteenth century.” The following extempore criticisms of two leading Court of Session debaters in a Divorce case are kindlier, but not particularly glowing :—

“He clench’d his pamphlets in his fist,
He quoted and he hinted,
Till, in a declamation mist,
His argument he tint it.
He graped for’t, he gaped for’t,
He found it was awa, man ;
But what his common-sense came short,
He eked it out wi’ law, man.

And—

“Collected, Harry stood a wee,
Then opened out his arm, man,
His Lordship sat, wi’ ruefu’ e’e,
And ey’d the gathering storm, man ;
Like wind-driv’n hail, it did assail,
Or torrents ower a linn, man ;
The bench sae wise, lift up their eyes,
Half waken’d wi’ the din, man.”

On the occasion of the famous contest for the Deanship of the Faculty of Advocates, when Erskine was defeated, Burns wrote—

Scot to Scot ne’er met so hot,
Or were mair in fury seen, Sir,
Than t’wixt Hal and Bob for the famous job,
Wha should be the Faculty’s Dean, Sir.

Perhaps Burns’s views were prejudiced by the exclusive practices of the profession in Edinburgh in his day. Discussing these, Lockhart says—

“The lawyers in whose wider circle the Poet figured were almost without exception members of the landed aristocracy of the country, and forming by far the most influential body (as indeed they still do) in the society of Scotland, they were perhaps as proud a set of men as ever enjoyed the tranquil pleasures of unquestioned superiority. What their

haughtiness as a body was, may be guessed when we know that inferior birth was reckoned a fair and legitimate ground for excluding any man from the bar. . . . To this body belonged nineteen out of twenty of those patricians whose stateliness Burns so bitterly resented. It might, perhaps, have been well for him had stateliness been the worst of their manners. Among them the principle of jollity was indeed in its 'high and palmy state.' He partook largely in those tavern scenes of audacious hilarity."

One of the most curious of Burns's relations with Edinburgh lawyers was connected with the death of Lord President Dundas in 1787. Burns wrote concerning this to Alexander Cunningham—"My very worthy and respected friend, Mr. Alexander Wood, surgeon, urged me to pay a compliment in the way of my trade to his Lordship's memory." The lines were accordingly written. They can hardly be described as excellent, for, likely enough, the task was not congenial. Dr. Wood carried the elegy to Mr. Solicitor Dundas. The result is thus described by Burns :—

"The incurable wound of my pride will not suffer me to correct or even peruse it (*i.e.*, the poem). I have sent a copy of it, with my best prose letter, to the son of the great man—the theme of the piece, by the hand, too, of one of the noblest men in God's world, when behold his Solicitorship took no more notice of my poem, or me, than I had been a strolling fiddler, who made free with his lady's name over the head of a silly new reel. Did the gentleman think I looked for any dirty gratuity?"

In a letter to Charles Hay, published in the *Scots Magazine*, Burns gives another and distinctly different account of the inception of the poem :—

"The enclosed poem was written in consequence of your suggestion, last time I had the pleasure of seeing you. It cost me an hour or two of next morning's sleep, but did not please me, so it lay by, an ill-digested effort, till the other day that I gave it a critic brush. These kind of subjects are much hackneyed, and besides, the wailings of the rhyming tribe over the ashes of the great are . . . out of all character for sincerity . . . and well enough describes both the quality and the effect of a performance meriting no better reception than it got."

The services rendered to Burns by many lawyers were certainly remarkable, and it was impossible that the generous Poet could be ungrateful to them. Robert Aiken "the glib-tongued" was a liberal early friend and patron. Burns dedicated "The Cotter's Saturday Night" to him, and the lawyer, being an excellent elocutionist, was said to have "read the

Poet into fame." To Gavin Hamilton was dedicated the Kilmarnock Volume, while Richmond, the lawyer's clerk, gave the Poet the first welcome on the momentous visit to Edinburgh. He, it is believed, was partly responsible for the preservation of the "Jolly Beggars." "Holy Willie's Prayer" deals largely with a sessional process in which Gavin Hamilton was engaged with "Daddy" Auld, and in which he came off victorious. In this contest the glib tongue of Robert Aiken, who acted as agent for Hamilton, made Holy Willie's and other souls quake. A Presbyterial decision in favour of Hamilton was given in January, 1785. The Session appealed, but finally Hamilton obtained a certificate that he was "free from public scandal or ground of church censure known to us." To the last, Gavin Hamilton remained the true friend of the Poet, and justly earned the following among other tributes of praise:—

"Wi' such as he where'er he be
May I be saved or damned.

.

"What's no his ain he winna tak' it,
What aince he says he winna break it,
As master, landlord, husband, father,
He doesna fail his part in either."

And again—

See him the poor man's friend in need,
The gentleman in word an' deed—
An' shall his fame an' honour bleed,
By worthless skellums,
And not a Muse erect her head,
To cove the blellums?

Of Aiken, Burns wrote—

"A warmer heart death ne'er made cold."

And William Tytler of Woodhouselee was

"Revered Defender of Beauteous Stuart."

Even of proud Edinburgh he admitted—

"Here Justice from her native skies
High wields her balance and her rod."

Certainly one of the most interesting of Burns's legal friends was honest Robert Ainslie. Burns met him among the Masons in Edinburgh, and their friendship lasted for many years afterwards. Ainslie was seven years younger than the Poet and was a jolly fellow, to whom Burns confided many things about

his prospects and his family. With him the Poet in 1787 took his "Border Tour" and viewed the "glorious" Merse from Langton Edge. The Merse was then as now one of the most fertile and best cultivated plains of Scotland, and then as now was innocent of any defilement from mine or manufactory. With Ainslie, the Poet of Scotland set his foot first on English soil at Coldstream. In later years Burns wrote several striking letters to Ainslie calling him "the staff of his old age," and remarking once—"Tis much to be a great character as a lawyer, but beyond comparison more to be a great character as a man." One of the last, if not the last, of these letters was in 1793—an outburst which Hogg describes as a strange "hipperty-skipperly letter."

Burns in the course of his short life had considerable experience of the civil law in several important departments. First of all, there were the leases of the various farms in which he was interested as lad and man. To the first of these farms, Mount Oliphant, the Poet's father, William Burness, went in 1765, with £100 borrowed from Fergusson, his employer. He had a long, hard struggle. "At length my father's generous master died," says Burns, "and, to clench the curse, we fell into the hands of a factor, who sat for the picture I have drawn of one in my tale of 'Twa Dogs.'"

He'll stamp and threaten, curse and swear,
He'll apprehend them, poind their gear,
While they must stand, wi' aspect humble,
An' hear it a', and fear and tremble.

It is probable that the legal proceedings which Burns complained of as resulting on Fergusson's death were really required for the winding up of the deceased's estate. After that there was the lease of Lochlea, Tarbolton. The Poet after a while departed to Kirkoswald, returning to Lochlea about March, 1782. Litigation was then going on between his father and the landlord, Mr. M'Clure, an Ayr merchant. M'Clure's answers and counter answers and other particulars of this interesting litigation were published in the *Glasgow Herald* in 1897, and from these it appears that the stock and plenishing of the farm were sequestrated by warrant of the Sheriff. Local rumour accused the Poet's family of endeavouring to defeat the landlord's claim by denuding themselves of stock and crop. The

whole matter is still far from being clear to us. What is certain is that in 1784 William Burness died, and his family were left to end the dispute as best they could. The Poet writes:—
 “After three years tossing and whirling in the vortex of litigation, he (the father) was just saved from the horrors of a jail by a consumption which kindly stepped in and carried him away.”

The farm of Mossgiel, Mauchline, was in 1784 sub-let by Gavin Hamilton to Robert and Gilbert Burns, and there the Poet remained till he went to Edinburgh. From the money secured by publishing in Edinburgh he lent £200 to Gilbert to enable him to carry on that farm, the bill being dated 21st December, 1792. The last of the farms in which Burns was concerned was Ellisland, of which he got possession in May, 1788. From Miller, the landlord, he obtained a tack of four nineteen years' leases at £50 a year for the first three years and £70 a year for the remaining seventy-three years. The Poet undertook, for a sum not exceeding three hundred pounds, to build a complete farm “onstead.” Unhappily, in the selection of his new home, as Allan Cunningham's father said, he had “made a poet's and not a farmer's choice.” Like Burns's other agricultural ventures, it ended in failure, and in a few years the Poet auctioned his stock, handed over the farm to the proprietor (paying him one pound fourteen shillings for dilapidations in thatch, glass, and slating), and set up house in the Back Vennel of Dumfries. The release to the farm is in Burns's own writing as follows:—

“Whereas, I have paid the rent of the farm of Ellisland for the term of Martinmas first and settled my account relative thereto with Patrick Miller, of Dalswinton, the proprietor of said farm, I have agreed to give up my tack of the said farm at Martimas first. I accordingly hereby give up and renounce for ever the said tack. In Witness Whereof I write and subscribe these presents at Dalswinton this 10th November in the year 1791.

(Signed) “ROBERT BURNS.”

Burns's amorous propensities got him into trouble with both the civil and ecclesiastical authorities, the latter of whom were formidable in those days. One of the “Jolly Beggars” sings:—

“I ance was abused in the kirk
 For towzling a lass i' my daffin;”

and Burns, as everybody knows, had the same sad experience. He had written :—

“ The priest anathemas may threat—
 Predicament, Sir, that we’re baith in ;
 But when honour’s reveillé is beat,
 The holy artillery’s—naething,”

and in August, 1786, he “ stood ” in the kirk of Mauchline and was rebuked, as the Session minute bears. In the verses addressed to John Rankine we read :—

“ I hae been in for’t ance or twice,
 And winna say o’er far for thrice,
 Yet never met wi’ that surprise
 That broke my rest.”

The next matter of moment in this connection is the “affair” with Jean Armour. There was first the irregular marriage in 1786. There was not only a promise *subsequente copula*, which by the law of Scotland makes marriage (except that the marriage must be declared by the Court), but there was also a written acknowledgment of a “private marriage” having taken place. The Poet thus doubly tied himself. Jean’s father would not, however, have him at any price. He got possession of the Poet’s “acknowledgment” (Jean believed it to be her “marriage lines,” and Burns called it an “unlucky paper”), and destroyed it. “I take it,” says Henley, “that the paper was ‘unlucky’ because it became a weapon in old Armour’s hands, and was the means of inflicting on the writer the worst and the most painful experience of his life.” Burns apparently regarded the destruction of the document as annulling the engagement and making him free. He wrote to David Brice on July 17th, 1786, “Poor Armour is come back to Mauchline. I went to call for her, and her mother forbade me the house. I have already appeared publicly in church and was indulged in the liberty of standing in my own seat. I do this to get a certificate as a bachelor, which Mr. Auld has promised me.” The promise of “Daddy” Auld was (if he knew the law and facts) most improper. Meantime old Armour had started legal proceedings against Burns—evidently more to frighten him out of the country than to make him pay for his fault. The Poet was obliged to skulk “from covert to covert, under all the terrors of a gaol” for “some ill-advised persons had uncoupled the merciless pack of the law at my heels.”

"Would you believe it," he writes on 30th July, "Armour has got a warrant to throw me into jail till I find security for an enormous sum. This they keep an entire secret, but I got it by a channel they little dream of; and I am wandering from one friend's house to another, and like a true son of the gospel 'have not where to lay my head.'" Of Adam Armour, when in trouble on account of the lynching of "Geordie's jurr," he wrote the following poetical exaggeration:—

" And now we're dern'd in glens and hollows,
And hunted, as was William Wallace,
Wi' constables, those blackguard fallows,
And sodgers baith,
But Gude preserve us frae the gallows,
That shamefu' death."

Meanwhile, in the middle of all this excitement, Burns executed (on 22nd July, 1786) a deed in favour of his brother Gilbert for behoof of his natural daughter Elizabeth, the issue of Elizabeth Paton in Largieside. This assigned "corn, cattle, horses, nolt, sheep, household furniture, and all other moveable effects, . . . and particularly the profits that may arise from the publication of my poems presently in the press." Intimation was publicly made of this assignation on 24th July between 10 and 11 forenoon, at Ayr Cross, by William Chalmers, notary public. Many explanations (none quite satisfactory) have been given of the fact that Burns thus proposed to get rid of all he had, and do nothing for Jean Armour, the girl whom he loved to "distraction." Two years later (5th August, 1788) he made the *amende honorable* by contracting a regular marriage with Jean. Bride and bridegroom appeared before the Session and acknowledged the previous irregularity, which was condoned. Burns's troubles with "the sex" continued after 1786, for there was a *meditatio fugæ* warrant issued against him in 1787 in connection with the claim of a servant girl. His other dealings with law included a co-partnery in the Flax Dressing business at Irvine (probably a verbal arrangement), his interest in his father's bankruptcy at Lochlea, where he ranked as a creditor for wages along with his brother and two sisters—a claim which was upheld. There are likewise the papers connected with the erection of a headstone at Poor Fergusson's burying-place. The managers of the Kirk and Kirkyard Funds of Canongate met on 22nd February, 1787, and in consideration of the

“laudable motion” of Mr. Burns, granted power to him to erect a headstone and to keep up the same to Fergusson’s memory “in all time.” This minute was extracted by William Sprott, clerk. When in Edinburgh, Burns attended a judicial sale, which he reported to Gavin Hamilton in a letter dated 6th December, 1786. He witnessed, doubtless, many a forensic duel in the Parliament House, and once after a celebrated Divorce case he hotly espoused in poetry the cause of the fair and frail respondent.

Burns served the Government in a dual capacity—first in the Excise, to which he was appointed in March, 1788, and next in the defence of the fatherland by joining the Dumfries volunteers in 1795. In the latter year he rendered some service to his adopted town by writing to the Dumfries Provost suggesting amendment in the mode of collecting the “Two pennies on ale.” In Chambers’s *Life* (Dr. Wallace’s) we read that, following on this letter, the Burgh procured Counsel’s opinion and afterwards got the imposts adjusted. A legal ceremonial in which Burns was interested was the presentation to him of the freedom of Jedburgh in 1787. There was once said to be in existence a Linlithgow Burgess ticket bearing the name of Robert Burns, but there seems to be no sufficient authority for this statement. Dumfries honoured her poet by making him an honorary burgess after he took up his abode in the town.

Burns’s horror of civil process was profound. We have already seen what he wrote of his father’s experience in the “vortex of litigation.” Later in life, when he saw a poor farmer’s effects being sold under a poinding, he prayed—“Preserve me from being the principal *dramatis persona* in such a scene or horror.” Again, in the “Address to Beelzebub” he speaks of the wrongs of the Highlanders there described:—

Yet while they’re only poind and herriet,
They’ll keep their stubborn Highland spirit,
But smash them, crush them a’ to spails,
An’ rot the dyvors i’ the jails.

Of the two last legal matters relating to Burns, the first affected himself, and the second his widow. On his death-bed he received a letter from Matthew Penn, solicitor for Williamson the haberdasher, asking payment of £7 4s. for clothes. It seems that the letter was not exactly a threatening one, but as

the amount was sufficient to incur punishment by imprisonment, and as prisons then were fouler and in most respects more grievous than now, Burns, in his weak state, was frightened into frenzy. It was then that he wrote the heart-rending letter to James Burness, his lawyer cousin at Montrose, asking ten pounds by return of post.

“O James, did you know the pride of my heart, you would feel doubly for me. Alas! I am not used to beg. Forgive me for once more mentioning by return of post. Save me from the horrors of a jail.”

And this to another friend :—

“After all my boasted independence, curst necessity compels me to implore you for five pounds. A cruel wretch of a haberdasher, to whom I owe an account, taking it into his head that I am dying, has commenced a process, and will infallibly put me into jail. Do, for God’s sake, send me that sum, and that by return of post. Forgive me this earnestness, but the horrors of a jail have made me half distracted.”

Both loans duly arrived, but by that time the borrower had no need of them. Burns’s last word was a delirious curse on the offending Penn and Williamson. So said his eldest son, but his mother afterwards contradicted him. It is fair to infer that a boy of ten, with his hearing and intelligence made abnormally acute by the circumstances of the great hour, is in this matter more reliable than poor Jean, who was at the moment about to be confined, and was doubtless almost overwhelmed by her sorrows.

The final legal business was the appointment of Mrs. Burns as “executrix *datiue qua* relict to the umquhile Robert Burns.” The two remittances just referred to appeared in the inventory which Mrs. Burns made up of her husband’s estate and the Commissary at Dumfries issued Confirmation to her on 6th October, 1796.

Burns held advanced views with regard to breaches of the criminal code. Some of these may be gathered from such extracts as the following :—

“I’ll no say, men are villains a’,
The real, harden’d wicked,
Wha hae nae check but human law,
Are to a few restricted.
But—och : mankind are unco weak,
An’ little to be trusted :
If self the wavering balance shake,
It’s rarely right adjusted.”

And again :—

“I have often observed in the course of my experience that every man, even the worst, has something good about him, though very often nothing else than a happy temperament of constitution inclining him to this or that virtue. For this reason, no man can say in what degree any other person, besides himself, can be with strict justice called wicked. Let any of the strictest character for regularity of conduct among us examine, impartially, how many vices he has never been guilty of, *not from any care or vigilance*, but for want of opportunity, and how many of the weaknesses of mankind he has escaped, because he was out of the line of such temptation. I say, any man who can thus think will scan the failings, nay, the faults and crimes, of mankind round him with a brother's eye. I have often courted the acquaintance of that part of mankind, commonly known by the ordinary phrase of blackguards, sometimes further than was consistent with the safety of my character. Those who, by thoughtless prodigality or headstrong passions, have been driven to ruin, though disgraced by follies, I have yet found among them, in not a few instances, some of the noblest virtues, magnanimity, generosity, disinterested friendship, and even modesty.”

And yet again :—

“The man of unfortunate disposition, and neglected education is condemned as a fool for his dissipation, despised and shunned as a needy wretch, when his follies, as usual, bring him to want; and when his unprincipled necessities drive him to dishonest practices, he is abhorred as a miscreant, and perishes by the justice of his country. But far otherwise is the lot of the man of family and fortune. *His* early follies and extravagance are spirit and fire, his consequent wants are the embarrassments of an honest fellow; and when, to remedy the matter, he has gained a legal commission to plunder distant provinces, or massacre peaceful nations, he returns, perhaps, laden with the spoils of rapine and murder, lives wicked and respected, and dies a scoundrel and a lord.”

Crime was as plentiful in Burns's time as the punishments were severe. In the last years of his life, owing to the distress caused by the war, the condition of the country was specially grave. We are reminded frequently in the poems that thieves and other petty offenders were hanged, and that banishment, transportation, ducking, and public whipping were all “legal horrors.”

Though it appears certain that Burns never was in prison, he was several times in danger of confinement. In early life the chances are that he joined in smuggling operations at Kirkoswald.

“The contraband trade was at that time very successful,” he writes, “and it sometimes happened to me to fall in with those who carried

it on. Scenes of swaggering riot and roaring dissipation were till this time new to me, but I was no enemy to social life. Here, I learned to fill my glass and to mix without fear in a drunken squabble."

Later, as a vigilant exciseman, Burns played a courageous part on the Solway in suppressing the followers of this once flourishing illegality. In February, 1792, he took part in the seizure of a smuggling brig and ran serious risks. The property was sold by auction, Burns buying four cannonades, which he sent to the French Convention. They were, however, detained at Dover.

Burns's relations to the law in his Excise appointment are interesting. Findlater avers that the poet performed his duties successfully, acting with leniency to poor people who were occasionally tempted to break the law. The Poet was fined at Carlisle, it is said, for allowing his horse to trespass on forbidden ground. The serious allegations made towards the close of his life of disaffection to the Government might have had more serious results than the threatened loss of his Excise appointment, had not Graham of Fintry and other influential friends intervened. Burns had undoubtedly said sharp things of people in high places and that was a dangerous thing to do long after his time. According to Lockhart, there was a "good deal of stately Toryism in Dumfries," and Burns's free utterances in jovial hours marked him out as one of the most formidable of the suspected apostles of sedition. That unlucky gift of cannonades and the writing of such lines as:—

The injured Stewart line is gone,
A race outlandish fills their throne,

were not likely to improve his position among the violent partisans of the Government. Yet when Britain was threatened by a French invasion, Burns enrolled himself among the Volunteers of Dumfries, and even the extremest Tory could find little to blame in the stirring "Does haughty Gaul invasion threat?" He once came near to fighting a duel:—

"I was, I know, drunk last night, but I am sober this morning. From the expressions Capt. ——— made use of to me, had I had nobody's welfare to care for but my own, we should certainly have come, according to the manners of the world, to the necessity of murdering one another about the business. The words were such as generally, I believe, end in a brace of pistols, but I am still pleased to think that I did not ruin the peace and welfare of a wife and family in a drunken squabble."

Of many expressions concerning the "horrors of the jail" two more may suffice :—

Oh ye, who sunk on beds of down,
 Feel not a want but what yourselves create,
 Think, for a moment, on his wretched fate,
 Whom friends and fortune quite disown ;
 Think on the dungeon's grim confine,
 Where guilt and poor misfortune pine.

Another less decorous serio-comic poem has this :—

" From those drear solitudes and frowsy cells,
 Where infamy with sad repentance dwells,
 Where turnkeys make the jealous mortal fast,
 And deal from iron hands the spare repast,
 Where tiny thieves, not destined yet to swing,
 Beat hemp for others, riper for the string ;
 From these dim scenes my wretched lines I date."

The foregoing is necessarily a brief *résumé* of what appears to really concern the matter. If it should be found interesting, the subject may be amplified on a future occasion.

J. JEFFREY HUNTER.



AUTHENTIC PORTRAIT OF JEAN ARMOUR.

WE are indebted to Mr. MACFADZEAN, Supervisor, Inland Revenue Office, Ayr, for this reproduction of a Portrait of "Bonnie Jean," by James Gilfillan, the artist. Early in his career (*circa* 1821) he was commissioned to make a copy of the Nasmyth "Burns" for the Dumfries Burns Club, and at the same time to paint from life, as a companion picture, a likeness of the Poet's widow. The Club still exhibits



Bonnie Jean.

the former each 25th of January, but the latter has mysteriously disappeared. The artist left Glasgow for New Zealand in 1850 and died there. He took with him a study in crayon for the above portrait of Bonnie Jean (24 in. by 18 in.), and this has recently been sent home by his daughter to her cousin, Miss Maxwell, Bankhouse, Maxwelltown, by whose permission it has been reproduced here.

CATALOGUE OF THE EARNOCK MSS.,

as at February 26th, 1899.

Compiled by E. BARRINGTON NASH, Esq., London.

RELIQUES OF ROBERT BURNS. Collected and published by R. H. CROMEK. Fourth Edition, 1817, 8vo, *inlaid* to 2 vols., 4to, and illustrated by the addition of 71 portraits and plates, 95 autograph letters, 10 original sketches in pencil, sepia, and water-colour by Thos. Stothard.

Also a third and supplementary volume, containing 135 autograph letters relating to Burns and his works.

Nine letters by Gilbert Burns to Messrs. Cadell & Davies (1815-19).
 Eight „ Cromek.
 Five „ M'Creery (printer of the *Reliques*).
 Ten „ W. Roscoe.
 Sixteen „ Cadell & Davies to Gilbert, Currie, &c.
 Twenty-one „ Currie, Cunningham, G. & W. Thomson, Alex. Chalmers, H. Raeburn, Ainslie, Beugo, Gray, and Suttaby.

Twenty-five Documents, including Cromek's first draft of the title of the *Reliques*, receipts, and Stothard's account for the drawings.

CONTENTS OF THE THIRD VOLUME:—

Forty-six letters by Dr. Currie.
 Twenty-nine „ Cadell & Davies.
 Twelve „ W. Thomson.
 Ten „ M'Creery.
 Thirty-eight „ Alex. Chalmers, W. W. Currie, G. Thomson, Lauri, Mrs. Riddell, T. Stewart, T. Manners, Cromek, &c.

List of Subs. to the Works, Accounts, Minutes of Meeting, &c.

N.B.—A letter from Roscoe addressed to Gilbert Burns (fourteen folio pages) respecting the Poet's moral character *defends* Currie for his aspersions.

The above is a Schedule of Contents of Vols. when they left Robson and Kerslake's hands for America in 1889.

E. B. N.

FEDERATION DINNER AT DUMFRIES.

SPEECH BY DR. WALLACE.

IMMEDIATELY after the business meeting a hundred ladies and gentlemen sat down to dinner, in the handsome new dining-room of the hotel. Provost Glover presided, supported on the right by Dr. William Wallace, to whom the chief toast had been assigned. There were also seated at the upper table, Mrs. Glover, Mrs. Sulley, Mr. Freeland, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Sneddon, Miss Mackay, Kilmarnock; Mrs. M'Naught, Kilmaurs; Mrs. Dalziel, Thornliebank; Rev. Mr. Craig, Lanark. The croupiers' chairs were filled by Mr. Philip Sulley, surveyor of taxes for the county of Fife, formerly of Dumfries, and Mr. John Wemyss, president of the Dumfries "Oak" Burns Club, being the senior local club affiliated with the Federation. An excellent dinner was purveyed by Mr. Adam and excellently served.

The Chairman in a sentence proposed the toast of the "Queen and the Royal Family."

Dr. Wallace was then called upon to propose "The immortal memory of Robert Burns." He said he certainly did not expect them to listen to, and it was not his intention to deliver, an elaborate address at this time. It was not quite the 25th of January, and by no alchemy or legerdemain that he knew of—divine or diabolical—could you conjure up "a blast o' Janwar win'" in the midst of a sweltering August. (Laughter.) Adverting for a moment to the motion submitted to the business meeting by his friend Mr. Freeland, he said it seemed to him to embody for the first time almost a very practical movement on—should he say?—the part of common Burnsites. That was to establish a lectureship—perhaps even a chair if the money were forthcoming—for Scottish literature and Scottish history. A lectureship of Scottish history was already practically established in Edinburgh, thanks to the late Sir William Fraser. But there was no reason why they should not

combine Scottish literature with Scottish history, especially in the case of a man like Burns, who embodied both. He deprecated the tone of pessimism which had marked some of the speeches. Don't let them start a movement with the idea that they were going to be beaten. (Hear, hear.) There was a whole host of millionaires who seemed to be perpetually weeping about their millions—(laughter)—and trying to get rid of them. There were many of them in Scotland; and if they approached them properly he had no doubt they would get a certain amount of money. But if they did not, why could not they as Burnsites, members of the Burns Federation, do their best; and then they might get help. There was a great talk about the strength of the Burns cult. It had almost reached the strength of a church. What did they see in the Wesleyan Church? They raised small sums from a large number of people, and they got a million of money. Why should not the Burns cult be able to raise the much smaller sum which they required? The main thing was that they were taking a practical step. That was the Burns spirit; for he was the poet of men of action, men of business. (Cheers.) Passing from this topic, Dr. Wallace said he did not think it was necessary for him to defend Burns in Dumfries, especially in the presence of Provost Glover, who had defended Burns on more than one occasion as man never before did in Dumfries. He must, he thought, be such a man as Burns's own Provost, Staig. It was unnecessary for him there to defend Burns against the miserable creature called "the superior person." (Laughter.) And who was the superior person? He was a person of inferior culture. And it was quite unnecessary now to defend him against the Pharisee. The Pharisee was pretty well exposed. All that seemed to be insisted on by their friends now was that Burns was one of those miserable individuals called a peasant. We were told by one critic that Burns was specifically a peasant, as Shakespeare was specifically a burgess and Byron was specifically a peer. But come to realities, what did we see? When a Prime Minister wished to reward a political supporter, he made him a peer. He made, it might be, a merchant or a chemical manufacturer — (a laugh) — a peer. It was a remarkable thing that this man, who had been say yesterday "specifically a burgess," should be to-day "specifically a

peer." That might be common sense; it might be a matter of fact; but it seemed to him that you could not change a man or even his son from being one thing to-day to being another thing to-morrow. It seemed to him that unless there was something of the nature of insolence imported into this discussion there was nothing in it whatever; and therefore that what was called specifically this or specifically that was superior insolence uttered by men who were generically if not specifically noodles. (Laughter and cheers.) The great thing in regard to Burns was to know what progress he had made. A very curious thing occurred to the speaker that week when in Ireland visiting the Giant's Causeway. That was a wonderful thing in itself. It seemed to him as if nature—should he say imitating Burns?—had been rhyming for fun. Or perhaps that giant, Fin Maccoull, had been inspired by the wine of the country, which he gathered must be one of two things—either Beecham's pills or Bushmill's whisky—(laughter)—and had set himself to show that he could do wonderful things in cutting heptagons and pentagons, or for establishing an argument, that nature had been trying her "prentice han'" on the Irish coast before she came to Scotland to make Fingal's Cave. The curious incident to which he had referred was that while he was at the Giant's Causeway an enormous party came from Lancashire—sensible working men; and the head of a group he heard, not reciting but giving what was the sort of key of the Burns Federation—"A man's a man for a' that." He gave it in very good Lancashire Scotch. He made one or two blunders. For example, the Poet referred to one whom he styled "yon birkie ca'd a lord"—who, he supposed, our critic friends would say was specifically a peer. The visitor from Lancashire said that gentleman was "a calf for a' that." (Laughter.) But the true Burns spirit was there—the true Burns gospel—although it might have been put in true Lancashire Scotch. That man was listened to. He was not simply reciting the poem; he was giving it as the gospel of experience. And that was a good sign. They might tell us that Shakespeare was a superstition, that Milton was an old disused organ, and that some half-dozen people knew something of Dante. But, although the body of Burns lay in his grave in Dumfries, it was surely something that in Lancashire "his soul is marching on." (Cheers.)

He had lived in England. Than the English pure and simple there was no more understanding people. If they took up Scotch things—and they were taking up everything Scotch from golf upwards, in which they were going to beat us all to sticks—(laughter)—if they took up Burns as they were doing, we would simply have to bow the head. And what would be better? These things should prove to us (continued Dr. Wallace) that the splendid essentials of Burns's work and life are beginning to stand out in their simple and shapely grandeur, and the world is beginning to recognise one of its greatest men and greatest benefactors. (Cheers.) For the world as well as Scotland will find out that it owes Burns not a little. It is something, amidst generations that regard wealth as all in all, or, if they take a less ignoble view of life, are ready to purchase the prizes of ambition at the price of their own honesty, that a voice like Burns's, with a power of catching the general ear more widely than most of his contemporaries, or even of his successors, should have compelled attention to a protest that there are greater things in life than wealth or power, and that a high-souled purpose and an honest career are better for a man than degraded plenty or successful craft. Therefore it is that, not without hope, though certainly without presumption, I would ask you to allow me for once to take a liberty with the text of our poet, and

Fill up your cups with generous juice,
 As generous as your mind,
 And drink with me the generous toast,
 The bard of humankind.

(Loud cheers).

Provost Glover said that, after the eloquent speech which they had listened to from Dr. Wallace—one who had laid his countrymen under a deep debt of obligation by his monumental work on Burns—he felt that any words of his, even interposing such an important toast as the Burns Federation, would be altogether out of place. But, while it might savour in a measure of the toast of “our noble selves,” it was of sufficient importance to warrant him in asking not only the ladies and gentlemen unconnected with the Federation, but also those who were its members, to join right heartily in drinking it. He might say of the Federation's delay in coming to Dumfries—“O, but ye've been lang in comin'”—(laughter)—but now

that they had come they were very welcome, and their visit was much appreciated on all hands. (Cheers.) The trend of Burns's life work, he might say, was towards federation, in regard both to individuals and communities.

The honest, social, friendly man,
Where'er he be,
'Tis he fulfils great Nature's plan,
And none but he.

They would have opportunities to visit some of the well-known and much-frequented scenes which Burns loved and revelled in. Some of them would be passing by Lincluden Abbey; and they would not forget the beautiful little love song associated with that scene—

Ca' the yowes to the knowes;
Ca' them where the heather grows;
Ca' them where the burnie rows;
My bonnie dearie.

Burns had not only done much for Scotland; but he had accomplished what was perhaps a greater work than that performed by any Colonial Secretary; he had bound the colonies to the mother country. And if it was not too much to say in the presence of one (Rev. Mr. Craig) who was very much respected in Dumfries and out of it, Burns gave us the keynote of any religion that was worth consideration—the religion of humanity. In these days, when ingratitude and mean and petty personal prejudices too often governed the crowd, it was something to know that Burns's high ideal took shape not only in gratitude but in full sympathy towards everything human and created. Burns above all things was a grateful man.

The bridegroom may forget the bride
Was made his wedded wife yestreen;
The monarch may forget the crown
That on his head an hour has been;
The mother may forget the babe
That smiles sae sweetly on her knee;
But I'll remember thee, Glencairn,
And a' that thou hast done for me.

He (the Provost) drew no distinction between peer and peasant. He recognised that in both classes you would find the best of men and also the worst; and he thought that

every man should be judged on his merits without regard to class. The cloak which covered the peer should not protect him from censure which his conduct at times might merit; nor should the humbler position of the peasant prevent a just recognition of his virtues. We might almost claim for Burns that his work had tended to increase the number of Samaritans—not necessarily the number of those goody-goody people whose only idea of life was from house to shop and from shop to house, with a sort of frigid respectability governing their every-day life. A richer, a fuller, and a fresher human sympathy governed the ideal which Burns put before us, teaching us to have a just, a full and tender regard for the susceptibilities of our fellow-men. That was in great measure, he believed, what the Burns Federation was aiming at—to bring all together in a sort of Masonic brotherhood, that would be a passport to cordial friendship for all of them wherever they might travel. (Cheers.)

Provost Mackay, whose name was coupled with the toast, made a suitable reply. They had to thank Provost Glover for the cordial welcome which he had given them, and which the Burns Clubs of the town had given to the members of the Federation. He agreed with the Chairman that the works of Burns had done much to spread abroad the sentiments of manliness and patriotism. (Cheers.)

Mr. Sulley proposed the health of the Chairman. He said no man had done more for Burns in Dumfries, or in any part of Scotland, than Provost Glover; and if Robert Burns came back to Dumfries the first man he would go up to and offer the grip of his right hand would be Provost Glover. (Laughter and cheers.)

The health of the Croupiers was toasted on the call of Mr. Sneddon.

THE DRIVE.

A party of over a hundred afterwards started on a drive in five char-a-bancs and brakes supplied by Mr. D. R. Scott, Newall Terrace, this having been arranged by the local clubs. The drive was by way of Glasgow Street, passing Lincluden Abbey, to Ellisland. Here the party visited the farm and examined the buildings, and several of the Dumfries members, led by Mr. Neil Sharp, sang Burns's "To Mary in Heaven" in

the stackyard, where it was composed. Proceeding next to Friars' Carse, the party were shown the Burns manuscripts, which are hung in the hall, and also the room which was the scene of the whistle contest. The ivy-clad Hermitage was also visited. The Glasgow contingent left Auldgirth by the 6.45 train, which made a stop there for their convenience, and after a lengthened stay the remainder of the company continued their homeward drive by way of Dalswinton, Kirkmahoe, and Carnsalloch, arriving in Dumfries at nine o'clock.



UNVEILING OF THE BURNS' STATUE AT BARRE, VERMONT, U.S.A.

ORATION BY W. P. STAFFORD.

THE statue of Robert Burns was unveiled at Barre on July 21st with interesting and impressive exercises, including an imposing procession and an eloquent oration by Wendell Phillips Stafford of St. Johnsbury.

The monument was erected by the Burns Club, one of the leading of the many Scotch associations in the city, and cost \$10,000. The Burns Club limits its membership to 50, all of them natives of Scotland, but in the work of raising money for the monument all the people of Barre united, and scores of gifts were received from admirers of Burns all over New England. The largest donor was William Barclay, of the firm of Barclay Bros., of this city, at whose expense the statue of Burns was cut from the sculptor's model.

Barre contains over 2000 people of Scottish birth, and these are naturally admirers of the great Scottish poet. The suggestion that they erect a monument in his honour was first made by James P. Marr, then president of the Burns Club, three years ago, at some exercises held in commemoration of the centenary of Burns's death. From that suggestion resulted the beautiful monument unveiled that day.

The design for the monument was selected from scores offered. This design was submitted by Barclay Bros. of this city. The sculptor of the statue is J. Massey Rhind, the famous Scottish-American sculptor who designed the doors for Trinity Church, New York, and also the noted decorations for the Commencement Hall at Princeton University, and many other works of more than national fame. The statue was cut by Samuel Norelli of Barre.

Every particle of the monument is of the best dark Barre granite. There is not a particle of bronze or other metal about

it. The front panel of the monument illustrates a scene from "The Cotter's Saturday Night" with the couplet beneath "From scenes like these old Scotia's grandeur springs."

On the back panel is the representation of Burns's cottage, showing the front and the front yard. On the right hand panel is a picture from "Tam O'Shanter's Ride," with the description underneath it: "Ae spring brought off her master hale, but left behind her ain grey tail." On the left panel is an illustration from "To a Mountain Daisy," showing Burns at his plough, with the words: "Wee modest crimson tipped flower, thou's met me in an evil hour." The panels were cut by Eli Corti of Barre.

The monument is 8 feet square at the base, and is 22 feet 2 inches in height. The height of the statue is 9 feet 2 inches. It shows Burns as a young man of twenty-six or twenty-eight. As far as is known it is the only granite statue of Burns in existence.

Hon. Wendell Phillips Stafford of St. Johnsbury, the orator of the day, is a native of Barre and of Scottish descent, and his selection was owing to those facts, in addition to his known brilliancy as a speaker. We give the following extracts from his speech:—

Most of Burns's poetry was only another form of his conversation. It dealt with the same topics and was addressed to the same persons. His brightest and pithiest words are often to be found in those rhyming epistles he sent his friends. One year he made his tax inventory in verse. It offers still a half humorous, half sorrowful picture of his poverty. Some of the poems—and some of the best, too—bristle all over with the names of his neighbours. So it is, for instance, in "The Twa Herds." It was never printed while Burns lived. It was handed about and laughed over among the unregenerate for the slaps of wit and stings of sarcasm, all unhappily too well deserved. It was exactly as if a great genius should drop down here in our midst, take a hand in all our quarrels, ridicule our weaknesses, avenge himself upon us for our slights, and draw with merciless fidelity the characters we meet day by day upon the street.

Mauchline had to read him, he enchained the attention of the world. The whole thing lies there in a nutshell; he knew his subject, and he knew his hearers. He had perfect mastery of his theme, and perfect sympathy with his audience.

Now stop and tell me if those are not the conditions of achievement in every branch of art. Is not the great painter the man who knows what he is painting and whom he is painting for, and makes his picture an appeal to those people? Is not the great orator the man who knows subject to the core, and knows his audience to the core? And the poet whose wit

and wisdom becomes a part of the world's precious store, whose phrases become household words, whose songs thrill in the hearts of soldiers and live on the lips of lovers—he is not the poet who shuns his fellow-men and polishes his lines for posterity, but the man who laughs and cries with them, and lives and works and suffers at their side. Poetry is an intense expression of the individual life. Nearness is power. You cannot get too close to your subject, nor too close to the hearts that you would touch and the lives that you would move.

Burns knew well enough how to write the smooth, elegant English verses that had been fashionable before him. He did write them at times, in some fit of weakness, or when he was urged to write and hadn't anything in particular to say. I presume you can find forty such among his poems. But there isn't one of them that would have kept his name alive ten years. He was writing of something he knew nothing about, and writing for people he cared nothing about, and the result is that nobody cares about what he wrote.

Now if Burns had only received that fine university education which so many people think was his great misfortune to have lacked, the chances are that all of his poetry would have been of this elegant, good-for-nothing order. It is not when he tried to be fine that he is eloquent; it is when he lets himself go, in the dialect. The English of the schools was like a foreign tongue to him. He had to learn it; but the dialect he never had to learn. He spoke before he knew what learning meant; he drew it in with his breath, yes, almost with his milk. Macaulay said truly that no man ever wrote an immortal work in any language except the one he heard about his cradle. These are the words in which thought kindles into flame. It is in moments of tremendous excitement that the finest poetic expressions have birth, and in those moments the soul always speaks in the tongue of its childhood—all other language is forgotten. You may give a Scotchman all the culture of the school, until his ordinary conversation shall not betray his race. But the first excitement will betray him. Let him get angry and, if he swears, he'll swear in Scotch. If he falls in love, he'll woo in Scotch. When he tells a thrilling story he'll tell it in Scotch. And if he gets "fou and unco happy," he'll sing in Scotch.

Now Burns could have received no education that would have given him a mightier command of this tongue—to him at once a harp and a sword. Perfect knowledge of his subject, perfect sympathy with his audience, perfect mastery of his instrument—and for not one of these gifts or acquirements was he indebted to any school or university.

But let us not make the common and silly mistake of calling him uneducated. He was well educated, thoroughly educated, for the great place he was to fill. No other training would have answered. The mills have been running at Edinburgh, Oxford, and Cambridge for centuries. Why haven't they produced a few Burnses? They have given us many a man of learning, they have polished and adorned many a man of genius, but they have never given us a single poet of the people. There is only one school that can produce him, and that is the school of hardship, privation, and daily toil, that Burns attended.

He had one gift, generally considered to be rare among poets, but of priceless value anywhere. I mean great, rugged common-sense. With all his fooling, bantering and dreaming, he never overstepped this bound. You can point out many things that are coarse, that ought never to have been written; but you cannot lay your finger on a single line and say it is silly. There is that substratum of good sense under everything he wrote. This cannot be said of all poets, nor, indeed, of all great poets. Wordsworth wrote much that is good, and a little that can never die. Many who judge wisely in such matters rank him third in English poets—Shakespeare, Milton, Wordsworth; but Wordsworth cannot bear this test. When he was proposed for Poet Laureate, a member of Parliament recited some of the weakest of his writings, and then asked, amid the jeers and sneers of the House, whether a man who could be guilty of such stuff as that was fit to be the Laureate of England! He could never have done that with Burns. We may laugh with Burns; we never laugh at him. You may strip him of all his poetic gifts, and still have left the man of ability and brains.

He had likewise the gift of leadership, of magnetism, of eloquence. Women loved him at sight; children hung about his knees; and men followed him like children. When it was known that he was at the tavern farmers forsook the fields, work in the village was laid aside, and if he would talk, the crowd would hang upon his lips until morning. And it was not the peasantry alone who admired him. Men and women of the best birth and breeding in Edinburgh testified that his conversation was even more wonderful than his poetry. This awkward ploughman was transformed in the presence of beauty. He could greet a lady with the grace of a knight. "Sic an e'e in his head!" was a common exclamation among those who saw him. His countenance beamed with intelligence, and his smile was as winning as a child's. Who wonders that women loved him? Over his rugged and manly strength was thrown the charm of wit, the grace of speech, and that indefinable suggestion of greatness. Here was that rare blending of sweetness and strength which captivates the heart and leads men where it will.

But over and above all this he bore the rare, mysterious, magnificent endowment of poetic genius. This was his crown. Here aspiring nature burst into flame. The rarest and most splendid gift God ever bestows upon the world is a great poet. When Burns was born that winter day in the old clay bigging that his father built, his coming was unheralded by sign or prophecy—no angels singing in the fields, no "star-led wizards haste with odours sweet"—yet if the world had ever had the wit to welcome its richest blessings, it might have knelt there in reverence and awe. Scotland would never be the same again. The earth itself would never seem the same. But love would be more sweet, and home more precious, and toil less hard, manhood would be more free and sacred, and life itself a richer, happier thing because of the wee bit bairn that saw the light that day.

We see now that it was Nature's purpose to make a poet, and that she took the surest means. She took the best blood of Scotland, peasant blood pure and undefiled, that had flowed for hundreds of years close to the

kindly earth—gave him a father of nature and hardened manhood, a young mother with a glad, warm heart—a father of rigid virtue, ardent piety, but independent spirit and almost ungovernable temper—a mother of poetic soul, responsible to every appeal of beauty, and so smitten with the love of song that she went about her work crooning the old Scotch airs day after day while bearing her baby in the womb. “When a man is born,” said Emerson, “the gate of gifts is shut behind him.” Why, Nature had made sure that Burns should be a poet before ever he was born.

If somewhere in the other world, that spirit-land, which may be nearer than we think, this great soul is looking down upon our doings here to-day, believe me, nothing in them has touched him more than that his form was wrapt about with the stars and stripes—the glorious ensign of that young republic he saluted from across the sea !

You, men of his race, who cherish his fame, and out of the love and sacrifice of loyal heart have reared this monument to his memory—you shall be better Americans for being true Scotchmen. You have cast in your lot with us, in a land dedicated to the very principle for which Burns sang his earnest song. We have a great task before us still, and you must help us. We must see that the sublime idea of our fathers is realised better, year by year, in a wide and wider spread of these blessings which they intended to secure for themselves and their posterity. The stream of your natural life must be the richer for your coming. Bring us of your thrift, your energy, your loyalty. We need them all. But bring us your finer gift, bring us your poet, too. He is too great for Scotland—he belongs to the world at large. We will teach our children to stand before his statue and say with yours : “This is Robert Burns, the great peasant-ploughman—the most rarely gifted son of the Scottish race—the sweetest singer of the common joys and sorrows of mankind the world has ever heard.”



Death of Dr. James Adams, Glasgow.

THE closing month of the year witnessed the removal by death of the eminent Burns scholar and enthusiast, JAMES ADAMS, M.D., of Queen's Crescent, Glasgow. He was the author of many fugitive papers on the National Poet, though most widely known by his monograph on "Chloris," which was published several years ago. He took a consuming interest in the success of the *Burns Chronicle*, and many of his best efforts were reserved for its pages. He achieved great eminence in his profession, having an extensive practice as a consulting physician, after his retiral, about ten years ago, from active work. He was an acknowledged authority on poisons, and he it was, who, collaborating with Dr. Penny, brought home guilt to the criminal, Dr. Pritchard, notwithstanding his use of the subtle vegetable poisons by which he hoped to escape detection. As a man, Dr. Adams was universally beloved for his amiable and kindly disposition, which was ever finding expression in cheering words and benevolent deeds. Possessed of a strong and cultivated intellect, slow to arrive at convictions, but courageous to the last degree in defending them, the Burns cult will seldom look upon his like again.

Death of Mr. W. Craibe Angus.

A WEEK or two before the death of Dr. Adams, the Burns world of Glasgow lost another prominent figure by the death of Mr. W. CRAIBE ANGUS, of the Fine Art Galleries, Renfield Street, which were long situated in Queen Street. Deceased was a man of strongly-marked individuality, and one of the best known of Glasgow citizens. With no special training in art, he had an intuitive perception of the beautiful both in the material and intellectual spheres. He had a profound veneration for Burns, and began at an early date to collect the finest specimens of the various editions of his works which he could lay hands on. His Burns library is consequently the most unique thing of the kind ever attempted, his taste in bindings rendering it doubly valuable. He was a man of strong opinions, and he invariably expressed them in the uncompromising tone which betokens moral courage and intellectual vigour. At all Burns functions he was a prominent and picturesque figure, and he will be sadly missed at many a meeting of the future.

CLUB NOTES.

SUNDERLAND BURNS CLUB SECOND ANNUAL REPORT, 1898.

MR. M. NEILSON, the enthusiastic Secretary, reports as follows:—
“In presenting my second Annual Report of our Club, it is with no small degree of pleasure I make note of our continued success. Throughout the year our meetings have been well attended, the average attendance being in advance of last year, thus showing that the interest of our Club has been maintained. We have had discussions and differences of opinion; these are helpful if kept in reasonable limits, but Scotchmen are nothing if not contentious and ever eager to gain knowledge.

“The Annual Dinner, on the 25th of January, was held in the Palatine Hotel, when a large and enthusiastic audience assembled to do honour to our ‘Immortal Bard,’ whose love for his country and his home have been the theme of many speeches. Mr. J. Dick, of Newcastle, gave a most exhaustive and interesting account of the value Burns set upon the ‘Old Scotch Airs.’

“A variety of papers have been given by the members, and a great amount of literary ability has been shown, for which our Club is profoundly thankful. This should for all time set that notion at naught which has been attached, not only to our Club, but to all Burns Clubs—*i.e.*, a good excuse for a booze. The day is not far distant when that stigma will be wiped out for ever, not that it has ever been justly applied to the Sunderland Burns Club.

“Our Summer Excursion was a great success. Upwards of eighty members and friends enjoyed the day’s outing, which was enlivened by the strains of the Highland pipes.

“One feature of our present syllabus which has been favourably commented upon was the evening devoted to ‘Lady Nairne and her Songs,’ and hopes are entertained that the Committee will keep at least two such meetings open for such other poets as may be decided upon. In this way that principle of expanding our knowledge has ample opportunity.

“Young and vigorous as our Club has been, we regret to note the death of our esteemed friend and member, Mr. James Simpson—a member of whom we were justly proud, and never more at home than when he was worshipping at the shrine of the Immortal Bard. A wreath was sent from the Club, together with a letter of sympathy to the family.”

THE NINETY BURNS CLUB

Was instituted in 1890. The objects that the founders had before them, were—(1) the perpetuation and extension of the Burns cult; and (2) the promotion of social intercourse amongst admirers of the Poet. During the ten years of its existence these objects have been successfully carried out. At the Anniversary Dinners the Club has been fortunate in securing as orators gentlemen who are not only distinguished in various spheres of public activity, but are also high authorities upon the life and influence of Robert Burns. In this and in other respects the NINETY has taken a leading place among Burns societies.

The limit of membership has recently been extended from 90 to 180, and there are now a number of vacancies on the roll. The Secretary will be glad to receive the names and addresses of gentlemen desirous of joining.

The annual subscription is 2s. 6d., payable not later than the 25th of January each year. It will much facilitate the work of the club if all subscriptions are paid to the Treasurer on or before the date mentioned.

A Club Badge has been struck, and may be had in silver (price 5s.) from Messrs. Thomas Smith & Sons, goldsmiths to Her Majesty, 47 George Street.

PROPOSED MONUMENTS OVER THE GRAVES OF ROBERT BURNS'S "CHLORIS" AND "CLARINDA."

Patrons.—The Earl of Selborne, Hon. President; The Earl of Rosebery, K.G.; The Lord Provost of Edinburgh.

Executive Committee.—The President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Peter Smellie, and D. Lawson Johnstone.

A movement has been inaugurated by the NINETY BURNS CLUB with the following objects:—

- (a) To erect an appropriate monument to Jean Lorimer (the "Chloris" and "Lassie wi' the lint-white locks" of Burns), in Newington Cemetery, Edinburgh, where her grave has remained unmarked since her death in 1831; and
- (b) To restore the tomb of "Clarinda" (Agnes M'Lehose), in Canon-gate Churchyard, which has fallen into a state of neglect.

The scheme is now being actively prosecuted by the Executive Committee. The subscription list has been generously headed by the above-mentioned patrons; and with the kind assistance of the Edinburgh "Jolly Beggars" Club and several kindred societies, a considerable sum has already been raised. The loyal co-operation of all members of the NINETY is sought to carry out the project in a worthy and adequate manner.

It is intended to close the list on or about the 25th of January, 1900, and members who have not yet contributed should do so as early as possible. The Hon. Treasurer of the fund is Mr. Peter Smellie, solicitor, 69 Henderson Row, by whom subscriptions will be gratefully received and acknowledged.

REVIEWS.

ROBERT BURNS IN STIRLINGSIIIRE. By WILLIAM HARVEY, Editor of "The Harp of Stirlingshire," &c., &c. Stirling: ENEAS MACKAY, 43 Murray Place.

MR. HARVEY has done most excellent work in collecting into this volume the Burnsiana of Stirlingshire and the adjacent districts, and our only regret is that our space forbids the detailed description of its contents which its outstanding merits deserve. In all collections of the kind, ground has necessarily to be traversed with which the Burns scholar is already familiar, but no fault can fairly be found with this for the reason that any elipses of the kind would vitiate the primary purpose of the book. Had we more of these local records as carefully compiled as this of Mr. Harvey's there would be fewer glaring errors committed by his biographers. Burns's two visits to the shire are carefully chronicled, and some fresh information given on the unfortunate episode of the writing on the window of the innominate inn at which he put up. His correspondence with Dr. Moore, who was a "Son of the Rock," occupies a good deal of space, and extended references are also given in connection with the Poet's friends and acquaintances, and the local colouring of certain of his songs. We cordially recommend Mr. Harvey's handsome volume as a valuable addition to the ever-increasing store of Burns lore, and well worth the modest price asked for it.



BIBLIOGRAPHY OF ROBERT BURNS.

PART II.—TO END OF YEAR 1894.

THE ANNUAL REGISTER; or, a View of the History, Politics, and Literature for the year 1796. [8vo.]

London: Printed for the PROPRIETORS of DODSLEY'S ANNUAL REGISTER. 1800.

“Chronicle [of the year],” pp. 30-31 : Obituary notice of Robert Burns.

THE POLYHYMNIA : being a Collection of Poetry, Original and Selected. By a SOCIETY OF GENTLEMEN. [16mo.]

With tales of Love to entertain the Fair,
To soften wrath, and smooth the brow of care,
To bid the generous tear of pity flow,
And soothe the wretch till he forget his woe—
The task is ours.

Glasgow: Printed [? by CHAPMAN and LANG, Glasgow] for, and sold by, JOHN MURDOCH, bookseller and stationer, Trongate. [1799.]

Undated, but its inclusion in an advertisement, by the publisher, in the “Glasgow Courier,” July 6, 1799, fixes it to about that year.

An imitation of the popular Stewart & Meikle and Brash & Reid periodical “tracts,” “The Polyhymnia” was issued “every succeeding Wednesday,” and extended to twenty numbers of 8 pp. each. The title to No. 18 reads:—“The Polyhymnia—No. 18.—Containing Eliza, The Bonny Lass of Ballochmyle, by Robert Burns*; Song, by a Lady, and the Bonny Lass of Cree. . . .”

The history of the song by Burns, included here, is well known : its composition after a walk (in the course of which he had met Miss Wilhelmina Alexander) “on the favourite haunts of my Muse—the banks of Ayr”; its being sent to the heroine with the request to be permitted to include it in his “new edition”; the lady’s non-compliance with that request (“She was too fine a lady to notice so plain a compliment”)—a refusal which the Poet remembered for long, as evidenced by the note in the Glenriddel volume; and the subsequent publication of the song by Currie (1800), to whom priority of publication has hitherto been ascribed. It is not so well known, however, that the song had previously been printed in “The Polyhymnia,” the version in which shows several variations hitherto unrecorded.

* The List of Contents issued on the completion of the volume says that this song was “never before published.”

MISCELLANEOUS POEMS, some of which are in the Cumberland and Scottish Dialects. The author, JOHN STAGG. . . . [12mo.]

Wigton: Printed by R. HETHERTON. 1807.

Page 27: "Epitaph, On the late Robert Burns."

The "epitaph" is preceded by this note—"It is a melancholy fact, that this much and justly-boasted Poet of Scotland lies buried in the Churchyard of Dumfries without so much as a *Hic Jacet* to speak his whereabouts."

POEMS AND SONGS. By LOGAN LOVEIT. . . . [8vo.]

Glasgow: Printed for the Author, by D. MACKENZIE. 1809.

Pp. 6-7: "To the memory of Robert Burns. Written in the Neighbourhood of Ayr."—Two stanzas.

ORIGINAL POETRY, on Various Subjects. By A. CALEDONIAN. . . . [8vo.]

Edinburgh: Printed by J. RUTHVEN AND SONS. 1811.

Pp. 54-55: "On Burns's Poems—Supposed to be spoken by a Scots Ploughman."—Eighteen lines.

POEMS AND SONGS, chiefly in the Scottish Dialect. By ROBERT TANNAHILL. A Notice respecting the Life and Writings of the Author is prefixed. [fcap. 8vo.]

Paisley: H. CRICHTON. 1815.

Pp. 71-76: "Ode. Written for, and read at, the Celebration of Robert Burns's Birthday, Paisley, 29th [*sic*] January, 1805."

Pp. 77-78: "Ode. Written for, and performed at, the Celebration of Robert Burns's Birthday, Paisley, 29th [*sic*] January, 1807."

COMMEMORATION OF BURNS. The Friends and Admirers of Robert Burns, in London, assembled at Free Masons' Hall, Queen Street, Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, on Saturday, the 25th of May [1816], in aid of the Subscription for completing the Monument over his Grave, now erecting at Dumfries. President, the Right Hon. the Earl of Aberdeen, K.T. Stewards. [Here follow the names of thirty gentlemen who had been appointed to that office.] [8vo, pp. 8.]

Printed by T. WOODFALL, Edward Court, Strand, [London].

Pp. 2-5: "Ode to the Memory of Burns," by Thomas Campbell, Esq.; pp. 6-7: [Verses on Burns], by an English lady; p. 8: "The After-Battle Song." [By William Jerdan.] The imprint is at foot of last page.

This pamphlet was circulated at the meeting. Campbell's poem, written for the occasion, was recited by Mr. W. A. Conway, the actor. An account of the Commemoration (the first held in London) is given by Mr. William Jerdan, with whom it originated, in his "Autobiography." (See "Bibliography," 1881, p. 175.)

THE LITERARY CHARACTER, illustrated by the history of men of genius, drawn from their own feelings and confessions. By the Author of "Curiosities of Literature." [ISAAC D'ISRAELI.] . . . [8vo.]

London: JOHN MURRAY. 1818.

Chapter IV. pp. 75-101: "Of the Irritability of Genius." [On, *inter alia*, Burns's Edinburgh Journal (his second Common-place Book).]

POCKET DICTIONARY OF THE SCOTTISH IDIOM, in which the signification of the words is given in English and German, chiefly calculated to promote the understanding of the Works of Sir Walter Scott, Rob. Burns, Allan Ramsay, &c. With an appendix containing notes explicative of Scottish customs, manners, traditions, &c. [With Supplement. 1828.] By ROBERT MOTHERBY. [12mo.]

Konigsberg: BROTHERS BORNTRAEGER. 1826-28.

THE EDINBURGH LITERARY JOURNAL; or, Weekly Register of Criticism and Belles Lettres. . . . November, 1828—May, 1829. [roy. 8vo.]

Edinburgh: CONSTABLE AND CO. 1829.

Pp. 361-364: "Moral and Miscellaneous Essays. No. 5. The Character of Robert Burns."

THE WORKS OF ANNA LÆTITIA BARBAULD.
With a Memoir by LUCY AIKIN.

Bright-eyed Fancy hovering o'er
Scatters from her pictured urn
Thoughts that breathe and words that burn.

In two volumes. . . . [8vo.]

London: LONGMAN, HURST, REES, ORME, BROWN, AND GREEN. 1825.

Volume II., pp. 150-152: Letter to Dr. Aikin (dated from Caroline Street [London], Jan. 31, 1787), showing an early appreciation of Burns.

ARTIFICIAL DRINKING USAGES OF NORTH BRITAIN. By JOHN DUNLOP, Esq. . . . Fourth Edition, with large additions. . . . [8vo.]

Greenock: K. JOHNSTON. 1836.

Pp. 53-64: " . . . How far . . . intemperance . . . has affected the literature of North Britain."—Examination of the writings of Burns.

SELECTIONS FROM THE "EDINBURGH REVIEW"; comprising the best articles in that Journal, from its commencement to the present time. With a preliminary dissertation, and explanatory notes. Edited by MAURICE CROSS. . . . In four volumes. . . . [8vo.]

London: LONGMAN, REES, ORME, BROWN, GREEN, AND LONGMAN 1833.

Volume I., pp. 167-190: "Burns."—Two reviews.

(1) Pp. 167-175: Jeffrey's Review of Cromek's *Reliques of Burns* (1808.)

(2) Pp. 176-190: Extract from Carlyle's Review of Lockhart's *Life of Burns* (1828).

THE GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE. By SYLVANUS URBAN, Gent. Volume X. New Series. MDCCCXXXVIII. July to December inclusive. [8vo.]

London: WILLIAM PICKERING. 1838.

Pp. 22-27: "The late Mr. Coleridge, the Poet." By Daniel Stuart.

The writer of this article was brother of Peter Stuart, of *The Star* (London). He gives here details of Burns's connection with that newspaper.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF ARTIFICIAL AND COMPULSORY DRINKING USAGE IN GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND; containing the characteristic and exclusively national, convivial laws of British society, with the peculiar compulsory festal customs of ninety-eight trades and occupations in the three Kingdoms; comprehending about three hundred different drinking usages. With copious Anecdotes and Illustrations. By JOHN DUNLOP, Esq. . . . Sixth edition of the Scottish Usages, with large additions. [12mo.]

London: HOULSTON AND STONEMAN. 1839.

Chapter VII., pp. 99-108: "Scottish Usages . . . —How far National Intemperance has affected the literature of Scotland—Examination of the Writings of Burns—Demi-Usages—[&c.]."

POEMS AND SONGS. By JAMES COLLIER. [fcap. 8vo.]

Edinburgh: Printed by ANDERSON & BRYCE. 1840.

Pp. 61-63: "Song—The Worth of Burns. Air—'Of a' the airts the wind can blaw.'"

EDUCATION: Man's Salvation from Crime, Disease, and Starvation; with Appendix, vindicating Robert Burns. By JOHN THOMSON, M.D. . . . [8vo, pp. 56.]

Edinburgh: FERRIER & FRENCH. 1844.

Pp. 55-6: "Appendix"—being a vindication of the memory of the Poet from "the blackest stain which Fame has affixed . . . to his splendid scutcheon . . . —that Robert Burns died . . . dissipation's martyr."

A DICTIONARY OF THE SCOTTISH LANGUAGE; Comprehending all the words in common use in the writings of Scott, Burns, Wilson, Ramsay, and other popular Scottish Authors. By CAPTAIN THOMAS BROWN, M.W.S., M.P.S. . . . [fcap. 8vo.]

London: SIMPKIN & MARSHALL. 1845.

THE BUCHANITES FROM FIRST TO LAST. By JOSEPH TRAIN, Author of "The History of the Isle of Man." &c., &c., &c. . . . [fcap. 8vo.]

WILLIAM BLACKWOOD AND SONS, *Edinburgh and London*. 1846.

Pp. 184-185: "Jean Gardner, the person referred to by Burns in his epistle to David Siller [*sic*].

The author would make believe that "my darling Jean" of the "Epistle" was Jean Gardner, not Jean Armour.

THE FREE CHURCH MAGAZINE. January to December, 1847. Volume IV. . . . [roy. 8vo.]

JOHN JOHNSTONE, *Edinburgh*. 1847.

Pp. 120-130 (April), 160-162 (May): "The Paraphrases."

The second of the articles was a "Supplementary Notice," and almost wholly devoted to "Burns and the Paraphrases." A Fac-Simile of Alterations suggested by Robert Burns, on the 35th Paraphrase "Old Version," was given with that issue.

THE FREE CHURCH MAGAZINE. January to December, 1850. Volume VII. . . . [roy. 8vo.]

JOHNSTONE AND HUNTER, *Edinburgh*. 1850.

Pp. 329-334 (November): "Readings from the Poets amid the scenes which inspired them.—I. Burns."

MOTTO—"A MAN'S A MAN FOR A' THAT."

The Burns Federation,

INSTITUTED, 1885.

Hon. President.—The Right Hon. The EARL OF ROSEBERY, K.G., K.T.

OFFICE-BEARERS.

President.—Provost MACKAY, J.P., Kilmarnock.

Vice-Presidents.—WM. WALLACE, LL.D., 36 Lilybank Gardens, Glasgow;

WM. FREELAND, 34 Garturk Street, Govanhill.

Dr. WM. FINDLAY, 19 Westercraigs, Dennistoun.

Rev. JOHN CRAIG, B.D., The Manse, Lanark.

DAVID MURRAY, M.A., B.Sc., Grammar School, Kilmarnock.

JOHN KERR, B.L., John Finnie Street, Kilmarnock.

JAMES M'CULLOCH, President, Royalty Burns Club, Glasgow.

MATTHEW GIBSON, Burns Club, 36 Nethergate, Dundee.

JOHN S. DEAS, Burns Club, 36 Nicolson Street, Greenock.

JAS. G. HENDRY, 9 Cumberland Street, Glasgow.

ROBERT FORD, 142 Ingleby Drive, Dennistoun.

Dr. JAMES ADAMS, Glasgow.

JAS. H. KIRKLAND, Winsome Willie Burns Club, Cumnock.

A. B. TODD, Poet and Historian, Cumnock.

Hon. Secretary.—Captain D. SNEDDON, J.P., Kilmarnock.

Hon. Treasurer.—JOSEPH BROCKIE, J.P., Royal Bank, Kilmarnock.

Editor, "Burns Chronicle."—D. M'NAUGHT, J.P., Benrig, Kilmaurs.

Auditors.—THOMAS AMOS, M.A., Glencairn School, Kilmarnock.

GEORGE DUNLOP, The "Standard" Office, Kilmarnock.

CONSTITUTION.

- I. The *Federation* shall consist of an Hon. President, Executive Council, and the affiliated members of each Club.
- II. The *Executive Council* shall consist of a President, Vice-Presidents, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Editor of Annual *Burns Chronicle* and two Auditors—all of whom shall be elected annually and be eligible for re-election—also of the President, Vice-President, and Secretary of each affiliated club, and other gentlemen of eminence as Burnsites nominated by the Executive.

OBJECTS OF THE FEDERATION.

1. To strengthen and consolidate the bond of fellowship existing amongst the members of Burns Clubs and kindred societies by universal affiliation.
2. To superintend the publication of works relating to Burns.
3. To acquire a fund for the purchase and preservation of Holograph Manuscripts and other Relics connected with the Life and Works of the Poet, and for other purposes of a like nature, as the Executive Council may determine.

RULES.

- I. The headquarters of the Federation shall be at Kilmarnock, the town in which the Federation was inaugurated and carried to a practical issue, and which contains the only properly organised Burns Library and Museum in the United Kingdom.

2. Properly organised Burns Clubs, St. Andrew's Societies, and kindred Associations may be admitted to the Federation by application in writing to the Hon. Secretary, enclosing copy of Constitution and Rules.
3. The Registration fee is 21s., on receipt of which the Diploma of the Federation shall be issued, after being numbered and signed by the President and Hon. Secretary.
4. Members of every Burns Club or Kindred Association registered by the Federation shall be entitled to receive a pocket Diploma on payment of 1s. (*These payments are final—not annual.*)
5. The Funds of the Federation shall be vested in the Executive Council for the purposes before mentioned.
6. A meeting of the Executive Council shall be held annually during the Summer or Autumn months at such place as may be agreed upon by the Office-bearers, when reports of the year's transactions shall be submitted by the Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer and Office-bearers elected for the ensuing year.
7. A meeting of the Office-bearers shall take place some time before the Annual Meeting of the Executive Council to make the necessary arrangements for the same.
8. Notice of any amendment or alteration of the Constitution or Rules of the Federation, to be considered at the Annual Meeting, must be sent in writing to the Hon. Secretary not later than the 31st March.

B E N E F I T S.

1. Registered Clubs are supplied free with copies of newspapers containing accounts of meetings, demonstrations, &c., organised, conducted, or attended by the Executive Council of the Federation, and of the Annual Meeting of the Kilmarnock Burns Club.
2. Exchange of fraternal greetings on the anniversary of the Poet's natal day.
3. Members of Registered Clubs, who have provided themselves with pocket diplomas, are entitled to attend meetings of all Clubs on the Roll of the Federation, they being subject to the rules of the Club visited, but having no voice in its management unless admitted a member according to local form.
4. Members are entitled to be supplied, through the Secretaries of their respective Clubs, with copies of all works published by the Federation, at a discount of 33⅓ per cent.

BOOKS PUBLISHED BY THE FEDERATION.

BURNS'S HOLOGRAPH MANUSCRIPTS in the Kilmarnock Monument Museum, with Notes,				1889,	.	.	1s. 6d.
BURNS'S CHRONICLE AND CLUB DIRECTORY,				1892,	.	.	1s. od.
"				1893,	.	.	1s. 6d.
"				1894,	.	.	1s. 6d.
"				1895,	.	.	1s. 6d.
"				1896,	.	.	1s. 6d.
"				1897,	.	.	1s. 6d.
"				1898,	.	.	1s. 6d.
"				1899,	.	.	1s. 6d.
"				1900,	.	.	1s. 6d.

A few copies of the back vols. may still be had on application to the Hon. Secretary. Increased prices are charged when the vols. are out of print.

ANNUAL MEETING OF BURNS FEDERATION.

KING'S ARMS HOTEL,
HIGH STREET,
DUMFRIES, 19th August, 1899.

THE Annual Meeting of the Executive Council of the Federation was held here to-day, at 12 noon.

Present—Provost Mackay, J.P., Kilmarnock (presiding); Wm. Wallace, LL.D., Glasgow; Wm. Freeland, Govanhill; Dr. Wm. Findlay, Glasgow; Rev. John Craig, B.D., Lanark; George Dunlop, *Kilmarnock Standard*; D. McNaught, J.P., editor *Burns Chronicle*; Thomas Amos, M.A., Kilmarnock, and Capt. D. Sneddon, *Hon. Secretary* (office-bearers of the Federation); also the representatives from the following Clubs:—No. 0, Kilmarnock; No. 2, Alexandria; No. 9, "Royalty," Glasgow; No. 14, Dundee; No. 50, Stirling; No. 52, "Mechanics," Dumfries; No. 57, Thornliebank; No. 67, "Carlton," Glasgow; No. 86, "Winsome Willie," Cumnock; No. 87, Campsie; No. 92, "Jolly Beggars," Kilbowie; No. 98, Lanark; No. 101, Motherwell; No. 104, "Oak," Dumfries; No. 112, "Howff," Dumfries; and Mr. Moodie, Bloemfontein, South Africa.

The Hon. Secretary read the Minutes of the Annual Meeting, held at Mauchline on 30th July, 1898, and of the Committee Meeting, held at the Windsor Hotel, Glasgow, on 16th June, 1899, which were unanimously approved of.

Letters of apology for unavoidable absence were intimated from Peter Sturrock, President, Dr. A. Paterson, Glasgow, Robert Ford, Glasgow, and the secretaries of a number of the Clubs.

Captain Sneddon, in the absence of the Hon. Treasurer, read the Statement of Accounts. The financial year was begun with a credit balance of £85, 12s. 8d., and the receipts during the twelve months were as follows:—Registration fees, of one guinea each, from ten new Clubs which had joined the Federation, £10, 10s.; fees, of one shilling each, from 167 members who had joined, £8, 7s.; royalty on sale of *Chronicle*, £10, 10s.; interest on deposit receipt, £1, 6s. 6d. The expenditure amounted to £8, 4s. 1d. Of this sum, £3, 15s. 9d. was spent on telegraphic greetings to Federated Clubs on the 25th of January, and the other outlays were for printing, postages, and other expenses of management. The accounts closed with a balance of £108, 2s. 1d., an increase of £22, os. 5d. on the year.

The minutes embodied a revised code of rules, which had been submitted by Dr. Wm. Findlay to a sub-committee, and was recommended for approval. Dr. Findlay explained that one of the principal changes was that there would be an annual election of office-bearers, which he

thought would diffuse greater interest in the work of the Federation. Mr. Gibson, Dundee, suggested that there should be some regulation for the representation of clubs in proportion to membership—remarking that when the Federation visited Dundee they had about sixty members of the local clubs present, and it would have been in their power to outvote and swamp almost any motion. The Hon. Secretary explained that although the Executive Council had always welcomed the members of local clubs at the annual general meetings, it was only the president, vice-president, and secretary of each Federated club who were entitled to vote.

The revised Constitution and Rules were then unanimously adopted.

Mr. M'Naught, Editor of the *Burns Chronicle*, gave an interesting account of his labour in getting together the material for Vol. VIII. which was issued at the beginning of January last, and urged the members present to bring the work before the committee meetings of their respective local clubs, with the view of getting every member to subscribe. He tendered his thanks to all members of the clubs and others who had sent contributions to the work, and acknowledged the warm and helpful interest taken in the *Chronicle* by his octogenarian friend, Dr. Adams of Glasgow, the author of "Burns's Chloris." It was remitted to the Executive to arrange for the publication of the *Ninth* Volume of the *Chronicle*.

Mr. William Freeland then submitted his motion, of which notice had been given at last Annual Meeting, and which had met with the unanimous approval of the sub-committee appointed to consider the subject—"That the Burns Federation should, in the name of the Poet, seriously consider the question of establishing in one of the Scottish Universities a Lectureship for the study of the Scottish language and of Scottish literature and history," and said that it sprang out of the objects for which the Bridgeton Burns Club was established in 1870. No aim could be more worthy of a Burns Club. After adducing many reasons for the adoption of his motion, Mr. Freeland referred to the financial aspect of the question, and pointed out that a Capital sum of at least £5000 would require to be raised, the interest from which, if properly invested, would yield sufficient to provide for the proposed Lectureship, and said that the idea of this proposed Burns Lectureship is based upon this three-fold assumption:—(1) That Scottish is a living language, and should be studied and taught in a manner to secure and maintain accuracy of form and purity of sound; (2) that Scottish literature is rich in noble writings in prose and verse, and is therefore as worthy of being investigated and taught in Universities as English or Gaelic; and (3) that Scottish history is of such vital interest that a clear knowledge of it should be held as imperative and indispensable in a sound Scottish education.

Mr. Amos, Kilmarnock, and Mr. Hendry, Glasgow, having spoken to the motion, it was resolved that the whole question be remitted to the Committee to consider and report—Mr. Freeland, convener.

In compliance with the new rules of the Federation, the following office-bearers for the ensuing year were unanimously elected:—President, Provost Mackay, J.P., Kilmarnock; Vice-Presidents, William Wallace, LL.D., William Freeland, Dr. William Findlay, Rev. John Craig, David Murray, M.A., B.Sc., John Kerr, B.L., James M'Culloch, Matthew Gibson, Mr. Deas, James G. Hendry, Robert Ford, Dr. Adams, James H. Kirkland, and A. B. Todd; Hon. Secretary, Captain D. Sneddon, J.P.; Hon. Treasurer, Joseph Brockie, J.P.; Editor, D. M'Naught, J.P.; Auditors, Thomas Amos, M.A., and George Dunlop.

The Chairman expressed the thanks of the Executive Council of the Federation to the secretaries and members of the local clubs for the excellent arrangements they had made for the business meeting and for the dinner and drive which was to follow. This being all the business,

Provost Mackay was awarded a hearty vote of thanks for his conduct in the chair.

Immediately after the business meeting the members adjourned to the dining hall, where they were joined by the ladies and a number of friends from Dumfries, Glasgow, and Edinburgh, when dinner was served by "Mine Host" of the King's Arms. Provost Glover, Dumfries, presided, and the croupiers were Provost Mackay, Kilmarnock; Dr. Findlay, Glasgow; D. M'Naught, and Philip Sulley.

After the loyal and patriotic toasts, "The Immortal Memory of Robert Burns" was proposed by Dr. Wm. Wallace of the *Glasgow Herald*.

Provost Glover proposed "Success to the Burns Federation," which was replied to by Provost Mackay.

Mr. Sulley proposed the health of the Chairman, and Captain Sneddon paid a similar compliment to the croupiers.

The party afterwards visited places of interest in Dumfries—Burns' Statue—Town Hall—House in "Wee Vennel" where the Poet lived on his removal from Ellisland—Whitesands—Dock Park—House in Burns Street, to which the Poet removed in 1793, and where he died in 1796—Burns Mausoleum—and had a drive *via* Lincluden Abbey, Ellisland, Friars' Carse, and Dalswinton.

The day's proceedings were carried through with perfect smoothness, and to the enjoyment of the whole company.

D. SNEDDON, *Hon. Secretary*.



ALPHABETICAL LIST OF FEDERATED CLUBS.

No. 40.—Aberdeen.
 84.—Abington.
 23.—Adelaide.
 20.—Airdrie.
 2.—Alexandria.
 6.—Alloa.
 82.—Arbroath.
 19.—Auckland.
 99.—Barlinnie.
 12.—Barrow-in-Furness.
 64.—Beith.
 15.—Belfast.
 30.—Blackburn.
 95.—Bolton.
 29.—Bolton Juniors.
 76.—Breachin.
 114.—Brodick.
 106.—Broxburn—Rosebery.
 4.—Callander.
 110.—Cambuslang.
 87.—Campsie.
 71.—Carlisle.
 102.—Carlisle—Border.
 81.—Carstairs Junction.
 11.—Chesterfield.
 51.—Chicago.
 93.—Clydebank.
 103.—Coalburn—Rosebery.
 79.—Corstorphine.
 42.—Crieff.
 66.—Crossgates.
 45.—Cumnock.
 86.—Cumnock—The Winsome Willie.
 62.—Cupar.
 35.—Dalry.
 55.—Derby.
 37.—Dollar.
 10.—Dumbarton.
 52.—Dumfries—Mechanics.
 104.—Dumfries—Oak.
 112.—Dumfries—Howff.
 14.—Dundee.
 69.—Dunedin.
 80.—Dunoon (Cowal).
 85.—Dunfermline—United.
 5.—Earlston.
 108.—East Calder.
 111.—Edinburgh (South).
 22.—Edinburgh.
 44.—Forfar.
 90.—Garelochhead.
 3.—Glasgow—Tam o' Shanter.
 7. „ Thistle.
 9. „ Royalty.
 24. „ Bank.
 27. „ Springburn.
 33. „ Haggis.
 34. „ Carrick.

No. 36.—Glasgow—Rosebery.
 38. „ Jolly Beggars.
 39. „ St. David's.
 41. „ Dennistoun.
 43. „ Northern.
 47. „ St. Rollox.
 49. „ Bridgeton.
 61. „ Glencairn.
 63. „ Mossgiel.
 67. „ Carlton.
 68. „ Sandyford.
 70. „ St. Rollox Jolly Beggars.
 74. „ Mauchline Society.
 78. „ Ardgowan.
 83. „ Co-operative.
 88. „ Caledonian.
 107. „ Hutchesont'n.
 109. „ Caledonia.
 59.—Gourock—Jolly Beggars.
 53.—Govan—Fairfield.
 21.—Greenock.
 100.—Hamilton—Mossgiel.
 96.—Jedburgh.
 92.—Kilbowie.
 0.—Kilmarnock.
 97.—Kilmarnock (Bellfield).
 58.—Kirkcaldy.
 75.—Kirn.
 98.—Lanark.
 73.—Lenzie.
 18.—Liverpool.
 1.—London.
 28.—Mauchline — The Jolly Beggars.
 8.—Morpeth (dormant).
 101.—Motherwell.
 56.—Muirkirk—Lapraik.
 65.—Musselburgh.
 32.—Newark.
 17.—Nottingham (dormant).
 48.—Paisley.
 77.—Paisley—Gleniffer.
 72.—Partick.
 26.—Perth.
 54.—Perth—St. Johnstone.
 31.—San Francisco.
 91.—Shettleston.
 13.—St. Andrews.
 50.—Stirling.
 89.—Sunderland.
 16.—Sydney.
 57.—Thornliebank.
 94.—Uphall.
 113.—Vale of Leven (Glencairn).
 46.—Warwickshire.
 25.—Winnipeg.
 60.—Wolverhampton.

D I R E C T O R Y
OF
BURNS CLUBS AND SCOTTISH SOCIETIES
ON THE
ROLL OF THE BURNS FEDERATION, 1900.

- No. 0. KILMARNOCK Burns Club. Instituted 1808. Federated 1885. President, R. D. Tannahill, South Hamilton Street, Kilmarnock; Vice-President, J. Julian Cameron, M.A., Wallace Street, Kilmarnock; Secretary and Treasurer, Thomas Amos, M.A., 40 St. Andrew's Street, Kilmarnock. 150 members.
- No. 1. LONDON Burns Club. Instituted 1868. Federated 1885. President, Dr. Leslie Ogilvie, 46 Welbeck Street, W.; Vice-President, W. H. Pitman, C.C., 35 Aberdare Gardens, West Hampstead; Secretary and Treasurer, W. C. Daniels, 37 Chardmore Road, Stoke-Newington, N. 128 members.
- No. 2. ALEXANDRIA Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1885. President, John Sharpe, 9 Main Street, Renton; Vice-President, James M'Farlane, Linnbrane Terrace; Treasurer, David Walker, 109 Middleton Street; Secretary, Duncan Carswell, Linnbrane Terrace; Committee, Donald Campbell, William Carlisle, Robert M'Gown, John M'Gown, William Duncan, Hugh Howie. 30 members.
- No. 3. GLASGOW Tam o' Shanter Club. Instituted 1880. Federated 1885. President, David Milne, 124 Bothwell Street; Vice-President, Charles Marshall, 68 Bath Street; Secretary, G. L. Cumming, 1 Blythwood Drive; Committee, John Muir, Andrew Crawford, M. M'Kenzie, Samuel Palmer, Thomas Thomson, George H. Forrest, John Smith, James M'Kenzie, and ex-President G. S. Galt.
- No. 4. CALLANDER Burns Club. Instituted 1877. Federated 1885. President, William Russell; Secretary, James S. Anderson, Callander.
- No. 5. ERCILDOUNE Burns Club. Instituted 24th January, 1885. Federated 26th November, 1885. President, William Kerr, Earlston; Vice-Presidents, T. Murdison and A. Nichol, Earlston; Secretary and Treasurer, Archibald Black, Aitchison's Place, Earlston; Committee, Messrs. Grieve, Wallace, Bone, Aitchison, Cameron, Douglas, Stafford, Miles, Fox, Noble, Wight, Monroe, Blackadder, and Huggans. 100 members.
- No. 6. ALLOA Burns Club. Federated 1885. President, George B. M'Murtrie, Ochil Street; Vice-Presidents, Alexander Reid, John Simpson, and George Burton; Treasurer, William Bringan, Coalgate; Secretary, David Hughes, Mar Place, Alloa. 30 members.
- No. 7. GLASGOW Thistle Burns Club. Instituted 10th March, 1882.

Federated 1885. President, James Mearchant, 136 Govan Street, S.S.; Vice-President, Alexander Rennie, 41 Cumberland Street, S.S.; Treasurer, A. Kerr, 24 Thistle Street, S.S.; Secretary, John Peters, 150 Main Street, Anderston; Committee, R. Crockhart, D. Douglas, D. Liddell, John Frame. Limited to 40 members.

- No. 8. MORPETH AND DISTRICT Burns Club (dormant). Last Secretary, John Dobson, Oldgate Street, Morpeth.
- No. 9. GLASGOW Royalty Burns Club. Instituted 1882. Federated 1885. President, James M'Culloch, 27 Rose Street, Garnet-hill; Vice-President, George Murray, 8 Wardlaw Drive, Rutherglen; Secretary and Treasurer, Henry Rodie, 143 West Nile Street, Glasgow; Committee, T. Graham, James Dykes, John M'Guffie, William Goudie, James Duthie. Meeting place, White's, Gordon Street. 65 members.
- No. 10. DUMBARTON Burns Club. Instituted 1859. Federated 1886. President, Major Buchanan, Clarkhill; Senior Vice-President, Councillor Thomson, Huntingtower, Bonhill; Junior Vice-President, A. A. Cruikshanks, Round Riding Road; Secretary and Treasurer, James M'Gilchrist, Gasworks, Dumbarton; Committee, Provost M'Farlan, ex-Provost Garvie, Master of Works Kirk, Councillors Young, and Dr. M'Lachlan, ex-Bailie Macleod, ex-Dean of Guild Allan, Andrew Watson, Walter Scott, William Mayer, Bailie Barlas, ex-Councillor Macphie. 36 members.
- No. 11. CHESTERFIELD Burns Society. President, Robert Howie, Ashgate Road; Vice-Presidents, D. S. Anderson, West Park; Dr. Goodfellow, Old Road, Brompton; Hon. Secretary, George Edward Drennan, 77 Salter Gate, Chesterfield; Derbyshire.
- No. 12. BARROW-IN-FURNESS Burns Club. Federated in 1886. President, Samuel Boyle; Secretary, Alexander M'Naught, 4 Ramsden Square, Barrow-in-Furness.
- No. 13. ST. ANDREWS Burns Club. Instituted 1869. Federated 1886. President, Bailie Keiller Bruce; Vice-President, James Leask; Secretary and Treasurer, William Brown, 116 South Street, St. Andrews. 125 members. Rooms, Royal Hotel. Poet Laureate, George Bruce.
- No. 14. DUNDEE Burns Club. Instituted 1860. Hon. President, Sir John Leng, M.P.; President, M. Gibson, 35 King Street; Vice-President, A. Macdonald, Minton Road, Lochee; Secretary, Edward Peill; Treasurer and Librarian, E. Dobson, 127 Nethergate; Curator, John A. Purves; Committee, D. Roberts, J. Laycock, Hugh Ross. Club Rooms, 36 Nethergate. 60 members.
- No. 15. BELFAST Burns Club. Instituted 1872. Federated 1886. President, W. H. Anderson, East Hillbrook, Holywood; Vice-President, Dr. Philip, 98 Great Victoria Street, Belfast; Secretary and Treasurer, James L. Russell, 21 Moyola Street, Belfast; Committee, James Jenkins, James Gemmell, A. W. Stewart, P. Galloway, T. E. Carlisle, William Campbell, A. M'Cowatt. 64 members.
- No. 16. SYDNEY Burns Club. Instituted 1880. Federated in 1886. President, Alex. Kethel, J.P.; Vice-Presidents, James Muir and Thomas Lamond; Treasurer, W. W. Bain; Secretary, W. Telfer, School of Arts, Pitt Street, Sydney, N.S.W. 400 members.

- No. 17. **NOTTINGHAM** Scottish Society Burns Club (dormant). Federated in 1886. President, R. Hemingway; Vice-President, John Johnstone; Secretary, D. Stuart Hepburn, 9 Wellington Circus, Nottingham.
- No. 18. **LIVERPOOL** Burns Club. Instituted 1877. Federated 1886. President, Hugh M'Whinnie, 30 Hampstead Road, Elm Park, Liverpool; Vice-President, Andrew Morton, 48 Trinity Road, Bootle; Secretary and Treasurer, Alexander Smith, 104 Salisbury Road, Wavertree. 70 members.
- No. 19. **AUCKLAND** Burns Club and Literary Society. Instituted 1884. Federated in 1886. President, James Stewart, C.E., Shortland Street, Auckland; Vice-Presidents, George Fowlds, James M'Farlane, A. Moncur; Treasurer, Charles Dunn, c/o Messrs. Brown, Barrett & Co.; Secretary, John Horne, Wellington Street; Committee, Alex. Wright, Arthur Dunn, William Moncur, Earnest Jones, William Stewart.
- No. 20. **AIRDRIE** Burns Club. Instituted 1885. Federated in 1886. President, William Sutherland; Vice-President, James Ramsay; Treasurer, David Johnstone; Secretary, James Sommerville, Royal Hotel, Airdrie. 55 members.
- No. 21. **GREENOCK** Burns Club. Instituted 1802. Federated 1885. Honorary President, Sir Thos. Sutherland, K.C.M.G., LL.D., M.P.; President, Robert Caird, Esplanade; Vice-Presidents, D. M'Innes, Charing Cross, Greenock, and Anderson Roger, Port-Glasgow; Treasurer, A. T. Anderson, 21 Newton Street; Secretaries, J. B. Morison, 55 Forsyth Street, and C. N. Morison, 12 Lyle Street; Librarian, J. M. Fairquhar, 10 Ardgowan Square. Club room (always open), 36 Nicolson Street; Janitor, Alexander Stevens. 300 members.
- No. 22. **EDINBURGH** Burns Club. Instituted 1858. Federated in 1886. President, Archibald Munro, M.A.; Vice-President, C. Martin Hardie, R.S.A.; Chaplain, Rev. A. Wallace Williamson, M.A.; Bard, Thomas Hepburn; Secretary, George A. Munro, S.S.C., 37 Castle Street, Edinburgh; Treasurer, J. A. Trevelyan Sturrock, S.S.C., 93 George Street, Edinburgh; Committee, Councillor Cranston, John Smart, R.S.A., Thomas Carmichael, James Tullo, James Grieve, Thomas Hepburn, Andrew Isles, J. M. Henry, Henry Kirkwood, James Ewing, Thomas Bonnar, Archibald Orrock, Alexander Anderson, W. Ivison Macadam, James Masterton, Peter L. Henderson, Dr. Kennedy Melville, Geo. T. Thin, Arch. Menzies, H. Erskine.
- No. 23. **ADELAIDE** South Australian Caledonian Society. Instituted 1881. Federated in 1886. Chief, John Wyles, J.P., Pirie Street, Adelaide; Chieftain, T. W. Fleming, Waymouth Street, Adelaide; Chieftain, Alex. Dowie, Rundle Street, Adelaide; Treasurer, D. W. Gray, Grenfell Street, Adelaide; Secretary, H. G. M'Kittick; Society's Office Address, 70 Grenfell Street, Adelaide, S.A.; Hon. Auditors, D. Nicholson and A. Ronald Scott; Committee, D. W. Melvin, R. H. Crawford, Philip Tod, John Drummond, T. H. Smeaton, George Fowler Stewart, James Murray. Branches of the S.A. Caledonian Society established in Port Adelaide, Gawler, Mount Gambier, Port Augusta, Millicent, Port Pirie.
- No. 24. **GLASGOW** Bank Burns Club. Instituted 1844. Federated in 1886. President, William Bowie, 220 Buchanan Street; Vice-President, Robert Johnston, Spoutmouth; Treasurer, Alex. Gray, 97 Great Hamilton Street; Secretary, John Gentle, 116 Gallowgate, Glasgow. 150 members.

- No. 25. WINNIPEG St. Andrew's Society. Federated in 1886. Chief, W. A. Dunbar; Secretary, David Philip, Government Buildings, Winnipeg, Man. Rooms, Unity Hall, Hain Street.
- No. 26. PERTH Burns Club. Instituted 1873. Federated on 19th June, 1886. President, William Whitelaw, M.P. for Perth, Hunting tower Park, by Perth; Vice-President, Dr. Holmes Morrison, Marshall Place; Treasurer, William Stevenson, Balhousie Villas; Secretary, James Harper, 68 St. John Street, Perth. Meet in Salutation Hotel, Perth. 80 members.
- No. 27. GLASGOW Springburn Burns Club. Federated 1886. President, Thos. D. Wilson, 4 Bellvue Terrace; Vice-President, Dr. W. A. Mason; Secretary, William M'Bain, Janefield Cottage, Springburn, Glasgow; Committee, John Flint, John Young, Alex. Forbes, Thomas Forsyth, Robert Kirkland, Wm. T. Muir. 37 members.
- No. 28. The JOLLY BEGGARS Burns Club, Mauchline.
- No. 29. BOLTON Junior Burns Club. Instituted 6th September, 1881. Federated in 1886. President, Peter Nisbet; Vice-President, James Flockart; Secretary and Treasurer, Harry George, 32 Halstead Street, The Harregh, Bolton. 82 members.
- No. 30. BLACKBURN Burns Club. Instituted in 1878. Federated in 1886. President, W. Ferguson, Ainsworth Street; Vice-President and Treasurer, William M'Kie, Wellington Street; Secretary, Robert M'Kie, Victoria Street, Blackburn. 20 members.
- No. 31. SAN FRANCISCO Scottish Thistle Club. Instituted 18th March, 1882. Federated 1886. Royal Chief, W. A. Dawson, Hughes' Hotel; Chieftain, Andrew Ross, 1208A Howard Street; Treasurer, John Ross, 26 Eddy Street; Recorder, George W. Paterson, 801 Guerrero Street. 250 members.
- No. 32. NEWARK Caledonian Club. Federated in 1886. President, John Huggan; Treasurer, Paul Buchanan, corner of 16th Avenue and Bergen Street; Secretary, John Hogg, Caledonian Club, Newark, New Jersey, U.S.A.
- No. 33. GLASGOW Haggis Club. Instituted 1872. Federated in 1886. President, Thomas Paxton, Ashvilla, Ayton Road, Pollokshields; Vice-President, William Thom, 15 Carment Drive, Shawlands; Treasurer, Thomas Macfarlane, 90 Regent Terrace; Secretary, R. J. Cameron, 212 St. Vincent Street. Meet in Mr. M'Culloch's, Maxwell Street. 50 members (limited).
- No. 34. GLASGOW Carrick Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1859. Federated 15th January, 1887. President, D. Gordon; Treasurer, D. Norval; Secretary, William Morrison, 62 Glassford Street. Meet in 62 Glassford Street, Glasgow, every Saturday, excepting the months of July and August; 40 members.
- No. 35. DALRY Burns Club. Instituted 1826. Federated in 1887. President, David Johnstone, Inspector of Schools; Vice-President, Robert Fulton, Writer; Secretary and Treasurer, Alexander Comrie, Accountant, Dalry, Ayrshire. This is the oldest known Burns Club with an unbroken record of its transactions to date. 30 members. The anniversary meeting is held on the Friday nearest 25th January.
- No. 36. GLASGOW Rosebery Burns Club. Instituted 1885. Federated in 1887. Patron, Right Hon. the Earl of Rosebery.

- President, J. S. Jamieson, 344 Dumbarton Road, Partick ; Vice-President, James Angus, 22 Ratho Terrace, Springburn ; Treasurer, C. F. Macpherson, 4 Holmhead Place, Cathcart ; Secretary, R. Murray Dunlop, 136 Wellington Street ; Committee, James S. Fisher, W. M'Vean, P. M'Vey, John Smith, Hugh Sturdy, H. P. Bayne. Auditors, J. R. Colquhoun, Hugh Sturdy. 148 members.
- No. 37. DOLLAR Burns Club. Instituted 14th January, 1887. Federated 29th December, 1897. President, John Benson Green, Station Road ; Vice-President, Charles Arrol, Castle Terrace ; Treasurer, J. Fleming, Bloomfield ; Secretary, John M'Gruther, Chapel Place, Dollar ; Committee, Messrs. W. G. Cruickshank, J. B. Wyles, C. Kinloch, J. S. Henderson, D. Finlayson. 50 members.
- No. 38. GLASGOW "Jolly Beggars" Burns Club. Federated in 1888. Vice-President, David Caldwell ; Secretary, Jas. Gillespie, jun., 80 Gloucester Street, Glasgow.
- No. 39. GLASGOW "St. David's" Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated in 1889. President, Henry Cowan ; Secretary, Alex. Porteous, 5 March Street, Strathbungo, Glasgow. Meetings held at 163 Ingram Street, Glasgow.
- No. 40. ABERDEEN Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated in 1889. President, James M'Intosh, 50 Mushit Hall.
- No. 41. DENNISTOUN Burns Club. Instituted 1886. Federated in 1889. President, Thomas Baxter ; Vice-President, W. Williamson ; Secretary and Treasurer, John B. M'Intosh, 300 Duke Street. Club Room, Loudon Arms Hotel, Glasgow. 25 members.
- No. 42. CRIEFF Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1891. President, Thomas Edwards, Dalearn ; Vice-President, Bailie Williamson ; Secretary and Treasurer, William Pickard, Meadow Place, Crieff ; Committee, Provost Finlayson, ex-Provost Macgregor, Charles E. Colville (Town Clerk), John Philips (*Herald* Office), S. Maitland Brown (teacher). 50 members.
- No. 43. GLASGOW Northern Burns Club. Federated in 1891. President, Peter R. MacArthur, 11 Randolph Place, Mount Florida ; Vice-President, John S. Hunter, 33 West Princes Street ; Treasurer, John Duncanson, 90 North Frederick Street ; Secretary, James Weir, 216 New City Road ; Committee, James M'Lay, Mr. Machie, C. Demangeat, William Reid, A. B. Mitchell, Alex. MacLaughlan, R. W. French. 80 members.
- No. 44. FORFAR Burns Club. Instituted 1890. Federated in 1891. President, John Ferguson, Allan Bank ; Vice-President, George S. Nicholson ; Treasurer, Andrew Rennie ; Secretary, Henry Rae, 14 Montrose Road, Forfar. 150 members.
- No. 45. CUMNOCK Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1891. President, D. A. Adamson, Solicitor, Glaisnock Street ; Vice-President, Bailie John Andrew, Glaisnock Street ; Secretary and Treasurer, Matthew Brownlie, Mars' Hill, Cumnock ; Committee, A. B. Todd, James Muir, W. J. King, John Samson, William Wallace, Robert Bird. 70 members.
- No. 46. WARWICKSHIRE Burns Club. Instituted 1888. Federated in 1891. Treasurer and Secretary, Robert Greenfield, F.R.H.S., Ranelagh Nursery, Leamington. 70 members.
- No. 47. GLASGOW ST. ROLLOX Burns Club. Instituted 1889.

- Federated 1891. President, Stirling Miller, 85 Saltmarket; Vice-President, Thomas Smith, 560 New Keppochhill Road; Treasurer, Donald Crawford, 184 Castle Street; Secretary, Robert J. Carruthers, 74 Alexandra Parade; Committee, William Cameron, Robert Paul, John Blackwood, John Chalmers, Gabriel Blair, David Newton (Steward). 26 members.
- No. 48. PAISLEY Burns Club. Instituted 1805. Federated in 1891. President, Dr. Wm. F. Gibb, St. James Place; Vice-President, John Hodgart, Linnsburn, Renfrew Road; Secretary and Treasurer, James Edward Campbell, M.A., B.L., Writer, 3 County Place, Paisley. Limited by Constitution to 40 members.
- No. 49. BRIDGETON Burns Club. Instituted 1870. Federated 1891. President, Dr. Munro, 569 Gallowgate; Vice-President, Andrew Hoy, Annfield School, Cubie Street; Treasurer, William Campbell, 32 Monteith Row; Secretary, William Cochran; Assistant Secretary, W. Stevenson Cochran, 175 West George Street, Glasgow; Committee, Rector Menzies, J.P., W. S. Service, William Armour, William Rodger, William Johnston, James Young, Robert Scott, Daniel Duncan, A. J. Bain; Auditors, James Murray and William M'Alister. 308 members.
- No. 50. STIRLING Burns Club. Federated 1891. President, Robert Whyte, Drummond Place; Vice-Presidents, Councillor Buchanan, Spittal Street, and D. B. Morris, Snowdon Place; Treasurer, J. F. Oswald, Newhouse; Secretary, Ridley Sandeman, 22 Forth Crescent, Stirling; Committee, Messrs. Craig, Walker, Philip, Thomson, Dun, Sands. 60 members.
- No. 51. CHICAGO Caledonian Society. Instituted 1883. Federated in 1892. Chief, Hugh Shirlaw; Chieftain, F. D. Tod; Treasurer, Augus M'Lean; Secretary, Charles T. Spence, 3002 Wabash Avenue, Chicago. 197 members. Society meets 1st and 3rd Thursdays in each month in Hall, 1-85 E. Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.
- No. 52. DUMFRIES Mechanics' Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1892. President, T. Ovens, Haywood Place, Maxwelltown; Vice-President, D. K. Mackie, Friars' Vennel; Secretary and Treasurer, James Anderson, 55 St. Michael Street, Dumfries; Committee, T. Paterson, J. Turnbull, R. Smail, J. M'Kinnell, A. Cochran, R. Anderson. Club Room, Liver Inn, Nith Place. 50 members.
- No. 53. FAIRFIELD Burns Club, Govan, Glasgow. Instituted 25th January, 1886. Federated 23rd September, 1892. President, William Rankin, 12 Elder Street; Vice-President, George Sinclair, 118 Harmony Row; Treasurer, James Cunningham, 2 John Street; Secretary, William Munro, 4 Hamilton Street, Govan. 60 members.
- No. 54. ST. JOHNSTONE Burns Club, Perth. Instituted 1892. Federated 1892. President, Councillor Charles Wood, Brunswick Terrace; Vice-President, Alex. Paterson, County Place Hotel; Secretary and Treasurer, Thomas Macgregor, 15 Balhousie Street; Committee, James Martin, Wm. Angus, James Rutherford, James M'Intyre, Alexander Mulholland, George Young, John Kerr.
- No. 55. DERBY Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1891. Federated in 1893. President, W. H. Cunningham; Vice-Presidents, Dr. Brown and J. M'Donald; Joint-Secretaries, George

- M'Lauchlan, 49 Molineaux Street, and George Kelman ; Treasurer, A. L. Cunningham, 54 Sadler Gate, Derby. 100 members.
- No. 56. MUIRKIRK Lapraik Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1893. President, Thomas Weir, Main Street ; Vice-President, Richard Cunningham, Balater Lodge ; Treasurer, Andrew Pringle, Glasgow Road ; Secretary, Hugh Cameron, Co-operative Buildings, Muirkirk ; Committee, James Young, D. Slimmon, James Samson, William Walker, D. Samson, John M'Donald. 48 members.
- No. 57. THORNLIEBANK Burns Club. Instituted 1891. Federated 1893. President, J. L. Connor, North Park ; Vice-President, Harry Wilkie, Eastwood Park, Giffnock ; Treasurer, David Marshall, Campsie Terrace ; Secretary, Malcolm Jamieson, Main Street, Thornliebank ; Committee, Robert Scott, Walter M'Farlane, W. Graham, A. W. Paterson, W. Hutchison, R. Dalziel, J. M'Allister, J. Ewing, D. Leggat, D. Jamieson, A. Strang, J. Whitelaw, J. C. Scobie, T. Purdon. 135 members.
- No. 58. KIRKCALDY Burns Club. Federated in 1893. President, A. B. Cooper, Douglas Street ; Vice-President, Charles Robertson, 130 Links Street ; Secretary, Robert Grant, Hill Street ; Treasurer, John A. Miller, 2 School Wynd.
- No. 59. GOUROCK "Jolly Beggars" Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1894. President, William Wilson, Loudoun Place ; Vice-President, James Shearer, 58 Kempock Street ; Treasurer, D. B. Brown, Loudoun Place ; Secretary, John Ogg, Loudoun Place, Gourock ; Committee, D. Malcolm, J. Ogg, Wm. Christie, E. M'Grath, Geo. Gray, Alex. M'Farlane. 90 members.
- No. 60. WOLVERHAMPTON Burns Club. Instituted 1891. Federated 1893. President, Thomas Graham, J.P., Tettenhall Court, Tettenhall ; Vice-President, George Weir, George Street ; Treasurer, Wm. Forsyth, 34 Stafford Street ; Secretary, James Killin, Beechgrove, Compton Road, Wolverhampton. 84 members.
- No. 61. GLASGOW Glencairn Burns Club. Instituted 1890. President, Robert Corbet, 2 Ardgowan Terrace ; Vice-President, James Jamieson, 13 Commerce Street ; Treasurer, W. F. Hutchison, 220 Paisley Road, West ; Joint-Secretaries, James Laing, 218 Watt Street, and John M. Picken, 375 Paisley Road, Glasgow. Meet at 375 Paisley Road. 46 members (limited to 60).
- No. 62. CUPAR Burns Club. Instituted 25th October, 1893. President, H. T. Anstruther, M.P., Gillingshill, Pittenweem, Fife ; Vice-Presidents, Thomas R. Nichol, Station Agent, and Philip Sulley, County Assessor, Cupar-Fife ; Treasurer, John Moore, Crossgate, Cupar-Fife ; Secretary, John G. Stewart, North Union Street, Cupar-Fife. 75 members.
- No. 63. GLASGOW Mossgiel Burns Club. Instituted 1893. President, J. M. Cowden ; Vice-President, D. Anderson ; Treasurer, R. Blair ; Secretary, J. M. Blair, 186 Cumberland Street, S.S., Glasgow. 50 members.
- No. 64. BEITH Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 1893. President, D. Lapraik Smith, Arranview ; Vice-President, Dr. Stewart, Eglinton Street ; Treasurer, John Short, Main Street ; Secretary, James S. Anderson, Craigwell, Beith ; Committee, John Howie, R. Paterson, A. M'Ewan, J. Crawford, R. Crawford, J. E. Hood, James Rankin, T. Smith, R. H. Sinclair. 42 members.

- No. 65. **MUSSELBURGH Burns Club.** Federated 1894. President, Robert Millar, 12 Bridge Street; Vice-President, John Dobbie, 39 Dalrymple Loan; Treasurer, William Constable, Inveresk Terrace; Secretary, W. D. Husband, Levenhall, Musselburgh; Committee, Robert Bissett, John Graham, T. A. Hogg, Andrew M'Farlane, R. A. Smith, W. Walker, John M. Williamson. 150 members.
- No. 66. **CROSSGATES Burns Club.** Instituted 1889. Federated in 1894. Secretary, William Muir, Back Street, Crossgates. Meet in Crossgates Hotel. 110 members.
- No. 67. **GLASGOW Carlton Burns Club.** Instituted 1894. Federated 1894. President, James G. Hendry; Vice-President, Wm. Carr, M.B.; Treasurer, Andrew Fergus, 147 Eglinton Street, S.S.; Secretary, William Crawford, 70 Armadale St., Glasgow; Committee, Thomas Cameron, Charles Masters, George Stark, Jos. H. Pearson, Robert Gibson, Jas. Hamilton, John Anderson, John F. Robertson, J. M. M'Connochie; Director of Music, John Pryde; Bard, Carl Volti; Roll-keeper, Matt. F. Hill. 100 members.
- No. 68. **GLASGOW Sandyford Burns Club.** Instituted 1893. Federated 1894. President, John Macleish, J.P.; Vice-President, Donald Mackenzie; Treasurer, George Paterson; Secretary, Robert S. Brown, 121 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow. 200 members.
- No. 69. **DUNEDIN Burns Club.** Federated in 1894. President, Dr. W. M. Stenhouse; Vice-Presidents, John B. Thomson and James Muir; Treasurer, John Scott; Secretary, William Brown. 400 members. Meetings held on the third Wednesday of every month in the Choral Hall, Dunedin, and on the 25th January, annually. The largest hall in Dunedin is filled to overflowing.
- No. 70. **GLASGOW St. Rollox "Jolly Beggars" Burns Club.** Instituted 1893. President, William Eyre, 77 Taylor Street; Vice-President, William M'Kay, 101 Castle Street; Treasurer, John Docherty, 21 St. Mungo Street; Secretary, Matthew Ferguson, 64 St. James' Road, Glasgow.
- No. 71. **CARLISLE Burns Club.** Instituted 25th January, 1889. Federated 1895. President, James A. Wheatley, J.P., 8 Portland Square, Carlisle; Vice-Presidents, Dr. Bird, 8 Brunswick Street; G. White, 8 Botchergate; Wm. Mather, 31 Chiswick Street; David Burns, Stanwise, Carlisle; W. D. Todd, 7 English Street; Secretary and Treasurer, J. Jardine, 20 Broad Street, Carlisle; Committee, Messrs. Bowman, Malcolm, R. Todd, Muir, Porteous, Meldrum, Findlay, Welsh, Tinnerwood, Buckle. 100 members.
- No. 72. **PARTICK Burns Club.** Instituted 1885. Federated 1895. President, George H. G. Buchanan, 15 University Garden Terrace; Vice-Presidents, J. C. Tyre, Rannoch Villa, Park Grove, and Provost Wood, Woodlands, Partickhill; Secretary and Treasurer, William Scott Wylie, 149 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow; Committee, Matthew White, Captain James Watson, William M'Allister, A. H. Ewing, James D. Boyack, John Scotland, James Orr, Robert Young, Councillor Sorley, William Kennedy, Major George Stout. 113 members.
- No. 73. **LENZIE Burns Club.** Instituted 1894. Federated 11th January 1896. President, John Walker, Eden House; Vice-President, William Douglas, Blair Cottage; Secretary and Treasurer, James Moir, the Neuk, Lenzie; Committee, James Ferguson, James Fraser, William Gibson, J. W. Pettigrew,

A. R. Whyte. Annual general meeting on 30th September. 50 members.

- No. 74. GLASGOW-MAUCHLINE Society. Instituted 1888. Federated 1895. Hon. President, Major-General Sir Claud Alexander, Bart., of Ballochmyle; President, Hamilton Marr, Hampton House, Ibrox; Vice-President, Hugh Alexander, Eastfield, Rutherglen; Treasurer, Thomas Killin, 168 West George Street, Glasgow; Joint-Secretaries, W. S. M'Millan, Wellington Chambers, Ayr, and James F. Gemmill, 16 Dargavel Avenue, Dumbreck, Glasgow; Committee, A. G. Alexander, Robert Alexander, Marcus Bain, C.C., Rev. Wilson Baird, Hugh Baird, David Davidson, John W. Davidson, J. Leiper Gemmill, Robert Hood, Bailie John Marr, William M'Millan, J. M'Adam Sharp. 60 members.
- No. 75. KIRN Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1892. Federated 10th February, 1896. President, Alex. J. M. Bennett, Strouan Lodge; Vice-President, J. M. Tuckwell, Ardblair Villas, Hunter's Quay; Treasurer, John Kesson, Adelaide Cottage; Secretary, John T. Johnston, Auld House, Kirn; Committee, Wm. M. Shields, Henry Stenhouse, John Mackenzie, Walter Morrison, James Reid; Auditors, John Mitchell, James Cook.
- No. 76. BRECHIN Burns Club. Instituted January, 1894. Federated in 1896. Hon. Presidents, D. H. Edwards and Provost Scott; President, W. J. W. Cameron, Clerk Street; Vice-President, John S. Baxter, St. Mary Street; Treasurer, A. J. Dakers, High Street; Secretary, Edward W. Mowat, 1 St. Ninian's Square; Committee, David Joe, William Davidson, James Bruce, James Lamond, Charles Bowman. 230 members.
- No. 77. PAISLEY-GLENIFFER Burns Club. Federated in 1896. President, J. Wallace, Braehead; Vice-President, Councillor Pollock, Garthland House; Treasurer, William Bell, Newhall Villas, Glenfield; Secretary, Alex. R. Pollock, 12 Garthland Street, Paisley.
- No. 78. GLASGOW-ARDGOWAN Burns Club. Instituted 8th March, 1893. Federated 1896. President, William King, c/o A. Mair, 40 Bridge Street; Vice-President, Alex. Mitchell, 14 Pollokshaws Road; Treasurer, John M'Auslan, 126 Crookston Street, S.S.; Secretary, John Fairley, 160 Cathcart Street, Kingston, Glasgow; Committee, J. Brown, T. Danks, R. D. Clugston, D. J. White, James Adams.
- No. 79. CORSTORPHINE Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1896. President, Adam Shoolbread, R.N., Forrester Road; Vice-President, David B. Geekie, Ormiston Terrace; Secretary and Treasurer, William R. Murray, Inglewood, Corstorphine; Committee, David P. Laird, Peter W. Leslie, James Matthew, Hugh Paterson, A. M'Dougall, D. J. Younger, Rev. James Ferguson, James Sutherland; Bard, Charles S. Smith, St. John's Road. 80 members.
- No. 80. DUNOON-COWAL Burns Club. Instituted 2nd March, 1896. President, John Reid Young, Garail; Vice-President, Commissioner Crosbie, Hillfoot Street; Treasurer, William Munn, Argyle Street; Secretary, Walter Grieve, James Place, Dunoon. 224 members.
- No. 81. CARSTAIRS JUNCTION Burns Club. Instituted 27th May, 1896. Federated 1896. Hon. President, James Hozier; President, John Cowper; Vice-President, George Martin; Bard, Alexander Blake; Treasurer, James Shaw; Secretary, William Neill, Burnside Cottages, Carstairs Junction; Com-

mittee, Thomas Robertson, Andrew Weir, David Ferguson, James Thomson, William Ramage, William Scott, James Buist, Alexander Blake, George Martin. 58 members.

- No. 82. **ARBROATH Burns Club.** Instituted 1888. Federated 1896. President, James B. Salmond, Editor of *Arbroath Herald*; *ex officio* Hon. Vice-Presidents, Right Hon. John Morley, M.P.; Hon. Charles Maule Ramsay, Brechin Castle; Captain Sinclair, M.P.; Provost Grant, Arbroath; Hon. Fred. J. Bruce, of Seaton; Colonel Auchterloney, of The Guynd; Charles W. Cossar, Seaforth; Fitzroy C. Fletcher, of Letham Grange; John Tullis, Glasgow; Alex. Gordon, of Ashludie; W. K. Macdonald, Town Clerk, Arbroath; Charles W. Corsar, Seaforth, Arbroath; Vice-President, John Russell, M.D., Hill Terrace, Arbroath; Treasurer, D. W. Fairweather, 2 Addison Place; Secretary, George R. Donald, solicitor, 93 High Street, Arbroath; Committee, George R. Thomson, Norman M'Bain, David Littlejohn, James Jack, C. Y. Myles, A. D. Lowson, R. S. Carlow, Charles Wilson, Adam Oliver, ex-Bailie John Herald, John R. W. Clark, David Dundas. 40 members.
- No. 83. **GLASGOW Co-operative Burns Club.** Instituted 1896. Federated 1896. President, J. Jeffery Hunter, 139 St. Vincent Street; Vice-President, J. C. Macgregor, 15 Iona Place, Mount Florida; Secretary and Treasurer, Robert Reyburn, 9 Gallowgate, Glasgow; Committee, Councillor J. Shaw-Maxwell, James Deans (Kilmarnock), Archd. Norval, James Ritchie, John M'Ewan. 84 members.
- No. 84. **ABINGTON Burns Club.** Instituted 1886. Federated 1896. President, James Paterson, Over Abington; Vice-President, William Clark, Glengounarfoot; Treasurer, Thomas Smail, Commercial Bank; Secretary, Robert Colthart, Arbory Villa, Abington. 87 members.
- No. 85. **DUNFERMLINE United Burns Club.** Federated 1896. President, Thomas Jackson; Secretary, Wm. Fraser, Free Abbey School, Dunfermline. 24 members.
- No. 86. **CUMNOCK "Winsome Willie" Burns Club.** Instituted 1856. Federated 1896. Hon. President, J. C. H. Kirkland, Glaisnock Street; President, Douglas Clark, Tower Street; Vice-President, John Pearson, Kilnholm Street; Treasurer, Hugh Brown, Waterside Place; Secretary, John Young, Ayr Road, Cumnock; Committee, Robert Hyslop, Andrew Hart, Councillor W. Shand, William Hyslop, James Gordon, James Howat, James Stewart, H. Fleming, Wm. M'Call. 60 members.
- No. 87. **CAMPSIE Burns Club.** Instituted 1890. Federated 1896. Hon. President, Colonel King; Ex-President, Major R. Stirling, Union Place, Lennoxtown; President, James Simpson, Main Street (W.), Lennoxtown; Vice-President, John M'Donald, Service Street; Secretary and Treasurer, James O. Robertson, Main Street (W.), Lennoxtown; Committee, G. Miller, J. H. Balfour, W. M. Smith, A. Hosie, J. Ewing, Robert Downie, James Gray. Give £10 yearly in prizes in singing and reciting for school children. Meet monthly. 40 members.
- No. 88. **GLASGOW Caledonian Burns Club.** Federated 1897. President, Thomas Higgins, 428 South York Street; Vice-President, J. M'Garry, 279 Langside Road; Treasurer, George Philips, 389 Crown Street; Secretary, J. M'Allister, 541 Duke

Street ; Committee, John Muirhead (chairman), J. Dunn, P. M'Nally, C. Campbell, D. Sinclair. Meeting place, George M. Nicol's, 25 Caledonia Road, S.S., every alternate Tuesday.

- No. 89. SUNDERLAND Burns Club. Instituted 1897. Federated 1897. Hon. Vice-Presidents, Wm. Allan, M.P., John Cameron, Dr. D. Ridpath, W. H. Turner, Professor Oliver, Dr. Waterston, J.P., Durward Lely, Robert Falconer. President, George Mackay ; Vice-President, R. C. Lynes ; Treasurer, W. H. Turner ; Secretary, M. Neilson, 6 Rosebery Street, Sunderland. 70 members.
- No. 90. GARELOCHHEAD Burns Club. Instituted 18th November, 1895. Federated 1897. President, Geo. C. Bennett ; Vice-President, Parlan M'Farlan ; Secretary and Treasurer, John Currie, Station House, Garelochhead ; Committee, Thos. Stobo, D. M'Kichan, J. Connor, Holm, Saunders, Maitland, Brough. 60 members (limited to that number).
- No. 91. SHETTLESTON Burns Club. Federated 1897. President, Jas. Wilson, Bute Villa, Shettleston, near Glasgow ; Secretary, James Clark, 1 York Terrace, Shettleston, near Glasgow.
- No. 92. KILBOWIE "Jolly Beggars" Burns Club. Instituted 10th August, 1897. Federated 26th August, 1897. Hon. Presidents, Hugh Tennant and Dr. J. S. Robertson ; President, Alex. Martin, 12 Gordon Street, Clydebank ; Vice-President, John Brock, Dalnotter Terrace, Old Kilpatrick ; Chairman, Gavin Johnstone ; Treasurer, Alex. M'Donald, 15 Janetta Terrace, Radnor Park ; Secretary, Leonard Trew, 9 Gladstone Terrace, Radnor Park, Dalmuir ; Committee, A. Morrison, C. Abbot, P. Candlin, John Brown, Thos. M'Intosh, Wm. M'Donald, Dan. M'Lean ; Pipers, A. Green and D. Gray. 100 members.
- No. 93. CLYDEBANK Burns Club. Federated 1897. President, William Butchart, 6 Cameron Street, Clydebank ; Secretary, John Murphy, c/o James M'Haffy, 2 Kilbowie Gardens, Clydebank.
- No. 94. UPHALL "Tam o' Shanter" Burns Club. Federated 1897. President, A. Balloch, West Houston ; Vice-President, Ronald Johnston, The Elm, Broxburn ; Treasurer, J. Brodie, jun. ; Secretary, J. Gilchrist, 107 Pumpherston, Midlothian ; Committee, J. Kerr, J. Webster, R. Hutchison, J. Potter, A. Banks, G. Ireland, T. Kerr. Meetings on first Monday of every month in Club-room, Mr. Brodie's Inn, Uphall. Annual Picnic in July. 105 members.
- No. 95. BOLTON Burns Club. Instituted 6th September, 1881. Federated 1897. President, George P. Roberston, 9 Chorley, New Road ; Vice-President, John Macfie, Ridgmont, Park Road ; Secretary and Treasurer, Charles E. M'Nabb, 26 Hr. Bridge Street, Bolton ; Committee, Rev. Dr. Johnstone, John Watson, Wm. M'Nabb, P. Halliday, George Guthrie, J. Boyd, J. Graham, J. Dickinson, George Begg ; Auditors, Dr. Holton and J. Morris. 82 members.
- No. 96. JEDBURGH Burns Club. Federated 1897. President, J. K. Young, Sessional School House ; Vice-President, Mr. Match, Eden Villa ; Secretary, Peter Telfer, 58 Castlegate, Jedburgh ; Committee, J. Wight, R. Haliday, George Aitken, William Swanston, A. R. Telfer.
- No. 97. KILMARNOCK Bellfield Burns Club. Instituted January, 1896. Federated 25th January, 1898. President, John Anderson, 64

- Robertson Place; Vice-President, George Richmond, 12 Paxton Street; Treasurer, James Thomson, Armour Street; Secretary, Jas. Carson, 22 Gilmour Street, Kilmarnock; Committee, David Burns, Jas. Campbell, Wm. Cooper. Place of meeting, Bellfield Tavern, Wellbeck Street. 32 members.
- No. 98. LANARK Burns Club. Federated 1898. President, ex-Provost Thomas Watson, Churchill; Chairman, ex-Bailie Sandilands; Treasurer, James Swan, Clydesdale Bank; Secretary, Robert M'Keane, 17 High Street.
- No. 99. GLASGOW Barlinnie Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1893. Federated 20th January, 1898. Hon. President, Robert Ford, 142 Ingleby Drive, Dennistoun; President, William B. Buglass, 187 Onslow Drive, Dennistoun; Vice-President, John Dean, Barlinnie; Treasurer, Charles Brown, Barlinnie; Secretary, John S. Robertson, Barlinnie; Committee, John Bowie, John Wilson, James Stewart. 60 members.
- No. 100. HAMILTON Mossgiel Burns Club. Instituted 1891. Federated 1898. President, William Smith, Quarry Street; Vice-President, W. J. Halley; Treasurer, J. G. Johnstone; Secretary, Archibald Clark, jun.; Spencerfield, Hamilton. 40 members.
- No. 101. MOTHERWELL Workmen's Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1897. Federated 5th May, 1898. President, A. R. Miller, J. P., Stanfield House, Blairhill, Coatbridge; Vice-Presidents, George Waugh, 24 Watson Street, and Commissioner James Dunlop, 95 Brandon Street; Treasurer, John King, 128 Muir Street; Secretary, Robert Brown, c/o Mr. Ross, Glebe Street, Bellshill; Committee, Thomas Stirrat, Samuel Richmond, William Donaldson, Thomas Croft, J. Blackmore, James Smith. 30 members.
- No. 102. CARLISLE Border Burns Club. Instituted 15th June, 1898. Federated 25th July, 1898. President, D. Murray, 18 London Road; Vice-President, W. H. Hoodless, High Street, Wigton; Secretary and Treasurer, Andrew Raffel, 36 London Road, Carlisle; Committee, J. S. Dawson, J. S. Atkinson, P. J. Paterson, John Horn, R. W. Carruthers, Dugald Gaw, R. Wilson, W. Morrison, William Adams, J. R. Boone, Robert Thom. 98 members.
- No. 103. COALBURN Rosebery Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1st August, 1898. President, John H. Odger, 9 Tinto View Terrace; Vice-President, Joseph J. Paterson, 61; Cathcart Road, Glasgow; Treasurer, John Waters, Holme Cottage; Secretary, John Woodburn, Coalburn Inn, Coalburn; Committee, James Walker, Alexander M'Innes, William Bain, Alexander Hamilton, James Stevenson, Thomas White. 50 members.
- No. 104. DUMFRIES Oak Burns Club. Instituted 1897. Federated 17th September, 1898. Hon. Presidents, A. M'Courtie, and J. H. Graham; President, John Wemyss, 2 Park Terrace; Vice-President, Thomas Haining, 149 St. Michael Street; Secretary, R. Ritchie, Crombie Terrace; Committee, D. W. Kerr, D. Jackson, W. Brown, T. M'Ardale, John Connell, D. Pollock, N. Sharp, D. M'Caulay, C. Johnstone. 60 members.
- No. 105. RUTHERGLEN "Cronie" Burns Club. Instituted 1895. Federated 1898. President, Walter Sharp, 2 Millcroft, S.S.; Vice-President, William Morrison, 2 Burnhill Street; Treasurer, James Selby, 4 Mordant Street, Bridgeton; Secretary, William Stewart, 24 West Mair Place, Rutherglen;

Committee, James Mack, Alexander Roxburgh, Peter Turner, Henry M'Neil, David Stewart. 40 members.

- No. 106. **BRONBURN** Rosebery Burns Club. Instituted 7th December, 1898. Federated 19th December, 1898. President, Thomas Lamb, Kirkhill Road; Vice-President, William Pagan, Bridge Place; Treasurer, James J. Sharp, Clifton Arms, Broxburn; Secretary, Joseph Miller, Ashfield Buildings, Uphall; Committee, Drummond Young, Peter Anderson, James Watmore, James Sharp, Robert Leckie, Malcolm Paterson, James Lamb, Adam Scott, John Rollo, William Shearer, Robert Harris, James Charleston. 40 members.
- No. 107. **GLASGOW** Hutchesontown Burns Club. Instituted 1898. Federated 1898. President, Andrew Stewart, 570 Rutherglen Road; Vice-President, Charles Taylor; Treasurer, Stewart D. Nisbet; Secretary, Alex. M'Whirr, 12 Wolsley Street; Committee, Wm. Whyte, Jr., Alex. M. Gardner, Neil M'Vean, Alfred Wright, and Wm. Papple.
- No. 108. **EAST CALDER AND DISTRICT** "Jolly Beggars" Burns Club. Federated 17th January, 1899. President, William Young, East Calder; Vice-President, James Miller; Treasurer, John Reid; Secretary, Sam. Hislop, Mid Calder; Club Room, Grapes Inn, East Calder.
- No. 109. **CALEDONIA** Burns Club, Glasgow. Federated 24th March, 1899. President, W. A. M'Killop, 2 Albert Mansions, Crosshill; Secretary, William Paterson, 122 Saltmarket.
- No. 110. **CAMBUSLANG** Burns Club. Federated 25th May, 1899. President, Thomas Brown, Mansion Street, Cambuslang; Vice-President, George Johnston; Secretary, Andrew D. Strachan, 4 Morriston Gds., Cambuslang.
- No. 111. **SOUTH EDINBURGH** Burns Club. Federated 26th July, 1899. President, Andrew Macpherson, 1 Rankeillor Street; Vice-President, M'Gregor Henderson, 17 Gladstone Terrace; Secretary, James Telford, 8 West Newington Place.
- No. 112. **DUMFRIES** Burns Howff Club. Federated 10th August, 1899. Hon. President, J. Hunter, Eastfield; President, J. Robertson, St. Michael Street; Hon. Vice-Presidents, R. F. Purvis, W. H. Williams, and J. Kennedy, sen.; Vice-President, S. Dickson, St. Michael Street; Treasurer, J. Maxwell, jun., English Street; Secretary, John Connor, 73 Queen Street; Committee, G. Bell, A. Davidson, L. Hutchieson, W. C. Russell, A. Muir, T. Craig, G. Shaw.
- No. 113. **BONHILL** Vale of Leven "Glencairn." Federated 30th Oct., 1899. Hon. President, W. White, 44 Bridge Street, Alexandria; President, D. M'Millan, Linbrane Terrace, Alexandria; Vice-President, H. M'Vean, 237 Main Street, Bonhill; Treasurer, W. Smith, 263 Main Street, Bonhill; Secretary, Alexander Campbell, 15 George Street, Bonhill; Committee, R. Mossman, Peter Stewart, John M'Pherson, Wm. Blakie.
- No. 114. **BRODICK** Burns Club. Federated 9th January, 1900. President, Robert Currie, Rosaburn, Brodick; Vice-President, Adolph Ribbeck, Corra Linn, Brodick; Secretary and Treasurer, Hugh Miller Reid, Schoolhouse, Brodick; Committee, John Gordon, Fergus Ferguson, Duncan M'M. Langlands, John M'Bride, James M'Allister, John Stewart.

1900 REGISTER OF BURNS CLUBS

AND OTHER

SCOTTISH SOCIETIES

NOT ON THE ROLL OF THE FEDERATION.

- ALBANY (U.S.A.) Caledonian Club. Instituted 1874. Secretary, James H. Hendrie. 90 members.
- ASHINGTON Burns Club. Secretary, Alex. Duncanson, Ashington, Morpeth.
- AYR Burns Club. Hon. Secretary, George Bain, Smith's Cottage, Ayr.
- BALERNO Burns Club. Instituted 1881. Secretary, John Fairbairn, Balerno. 30 members.
- BARRHEAD "Tam o' Shanter" Club. Secretary, John M'Whirter, Gateside, Barrhead.
- BATHURST (N.S.W.) Burns Club. Secretary, William Ferrier, Piper Street.
- BATTLE CREEK (Mich.), Clan Macdonald. Secretary, Frank Reid, 34 Irving Street, Battle Creek, Mich., U.S.A.
- BAY CITY (Mich.) Clan Forbes. Secretary, George E. Smith, 509 Eleventh Street.
- BAY CITY (Mich.), St. Andrew's Society. Secretary, G. A. Wilson, Bay City, Mich., U.S.A.
- BEDLINGTON and District Burns Club. Secretary, John Tate, Bedlington Iron Works, Northumberland.
- BELFAST Benevolent Society of St. Andrew. Instituted 1867. Secretary, John Boyd, 2 Corporation Street. 140 members.
- BELLSHILL Burns Club. Secretary, John Murdoch, Commercial Place, Bellshill.
- BERWICK-ON-TWEED Burns Club. Instituted 30th November, 1894. Secretaries, S. E. Simpson, West Street, and James Irvine, Knowehed, Tweedmouth, Berwick-on-Tweed.
- BRANTFORD (U.S.A.) Burns Club. Secretary, Joe J. Inglis, jun., Brantford, America.
- CALEDONIAN Society of Homestead, Pa. Instituted 1894. Secretary, William Thomson, Box 18, Homestead, Pa. 70 members.
- CAMBUSLANG Burns Club. Secretary, A. D. Strachan, 4 Morrison Gardens, Cambuslang.
- CARDIFF Burns Club. Instituted 1891. Secretary, G. Mitchell, 24 Edwards Terrace. 40 members.
- CLAN CAMERON (No. 7) O.S.C. Instituted 25th September, 1893. Secretary, Wm. Forsyth, 293 Douglas Avenue, Providence; Financial Secretary, J. B. Craig, 268 Sayels Avenue, Providence. 50 members.
- CLAN FRASER, Canada (No. 11) Order of Scottish Clans. Instituted 1884. Secretary, John Birtwell, 9 Lockbridge Street, Pawtucket. 90 members.

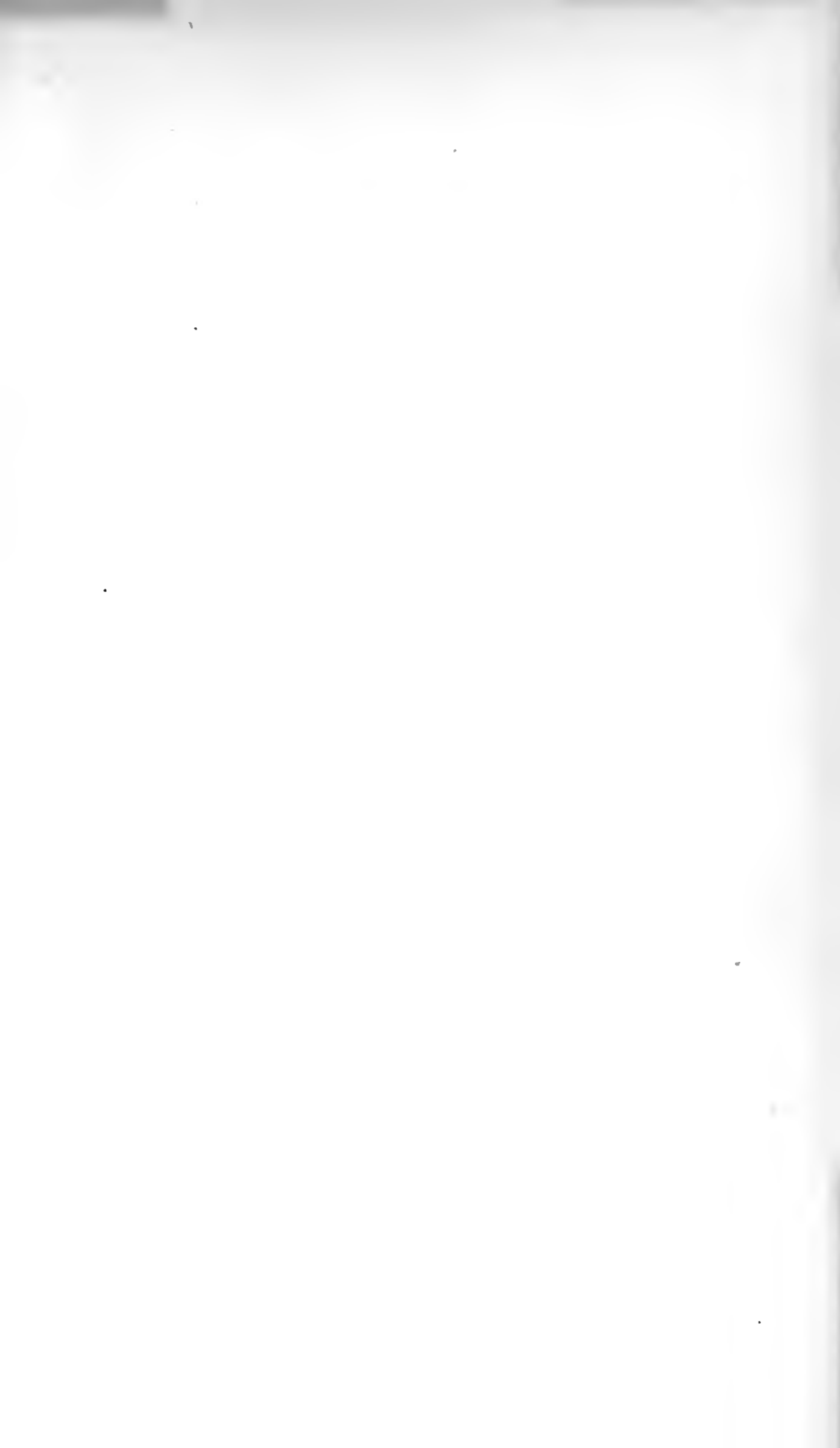
- CLAN MACKENZIE, St. John, Canada (No. 96) Order of Scottish Clans. Instituted 1891. Secretary, Joseph A. Murdoch, 23 Carmarthen Street. 80 members.
- CLAN MACKINLAY Association. Instituted 1893, at Chicago, Ills. Secretary, Main B. M'Kinlay, Paris, Ills.
- COATBRIDGE Burns Club. Secretary and Treasurer, James Milne Boyd, writer, Coatbridge. 60 members.
- COWPEN, The Sydney Burns Club. Secretary, John Harrison, Kitty Brewster, Cowpen, Northumberland.
- CRAIGNEUK Burns Club. Secretary, William M'Millan, 3 Shieldmuir, Motherwell.
- DENNY Burns Club. Instituted 1895. Secretary, James Scott, Bank View, Denny. 46 members.
- DETROIT (Mich.) Clan Cameron. Secretary, A. W. M'Nair, 12 Woodware Avenue.
- DOUGLAS Burns Club. Secretary, G. Torrance, North Quay, Douglas, Isle of Man.
- DUBLIN St. Andrew's Society. Secretary, J. C. Anderson, 37 College Green, Dublin.
- DUMFRIES Burns Club. Secretary, H. S. Gordon, Solicitor, Mount Brae, Dumfries.
- DUMFRIES "Wale of Good Fellows" Club. Secretary, Robert Bower, 4 Ramsay Place, Dumfries.
- DUNOON Haggis Club. Instituted 1896. Secretary, Archibald Ferguson, Church Street, Dunoon. 88 members.
- DUNS Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Secretary and Treasurer, John M'K. M'David, Schoolhouse, Gavinton, Duns. 60 members.
- EDINBURGH Ninety Burns Club. Instituted 1890. Secretary, John A. Clues, 47 George Street.
- EDINBURGH (Portsburgh) Burns Club. Instituted 1894. Treasurer and Secretary, James M. Sibbald, 13 Calton Hill. 30 members.
- FORT WAYNE (Ind.) Caledonian Society. Secretary, William Lawson, Fort Wayne, Ind., U.S.A.
- GIRVAN, The Carrick Burns Club. Secretary, Andrew Robertson, The M'Kechnie Institute, Girvan.
- GLENCAIRN CAMP (No. 139) Sons of Scotland. Instituted 1894. Secretary, James Watson, Sonya.
- GLENPATRICK Burns Club. Secretary, John Carson, 6 High Street, Johnstone.
- GOREBRIDGE Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Secretary and Treasurer, W. M. Forrester, Gorebridge. 62 members.
- HAMILTON Burns Club. Instituted 1877. Secretary, T. A. Robertson, Quarry Street, Hamilton. 120 members.
- HAMILTON "Glencairn" Burns Club. Secretary, Gavin C. Prentice, 28 Woodside Walk.
- HAMILTON Junior Burns Club. Instituted 1886. Secretary, William Wilson, 56 Miller Street, Hamilton.
- HAMILTON Original Burns Club. Secretary, James Eglinton, 32 Hope Street.
- HAMILTON (Ont.) Clan M'Kenzie Club. Secretary, James M'Kenzie, 202 Fay Street, South.
- HAWICK Burns Club. Instituted 2nd March, 1878. Secretary, James M'Cartney, 16 Trinity Street, Hawick. 260 members.

- HULL Burns Club.** Hon. Secretaries, W. C. Carle, York Union Bank, Limited, and W. D. Davis, 22 St. Luke's Street, Hull. 250 members.
- ILLINOIS Clan Macgregor** (No. 66) O.S.C. Instituted 1890. Secretary, John Hall, 1202 South Vermillion Street. 52 members
- INNERLEITHEN Burns Club.** Instituted 1884. Treasurer and Secretary, James Mitchell, Hall Street, Innerleithen. 37 members.
- IRVINE Burns Club.** Instituted 1826. Secretary, James Dickie, Solicitor, Irvine. 82 members.
- LADIES' SCOTTISH CLUB** of Rochester, N.Y. Secretary, Katharine Ross, 74 East Avenue. 50 members.
- LEITH Burns Club.** Secretary, William Wilson, 21 Panmure Place, Edinburgh.
- LINLITHGOW Burns Club.** Secretary, John Patrick Hardy, 34 Kelvin-side Gardens, Glasgow.
- LONDON (Ont.) Clan Fraser.** Secretary, John G. Jones, 241 Queen's Avenue.
- MANCHESTER** and Salford Caledonian Association. Secretary, Duncan MacLean, 4 Longford Place, Victoria Park, Manchester. 260 members.
- MELROSE Burns Club.** Instituted 1887. Treasurer and Secretary, Thomas H. Smart, St. Dunstan's Place, Melrose.
- MELROSE ABBEY CAMP Sons of Scotland.** Instituted 1892. Secretary, R. L. Innes, Sirncoe.
- MILNGAVIE Burns Club.** Instituted 1886. Secretary, Wm. M'Kenzie, 83 Hall Place, Milngavie.
- MILWAUKEE (Wis.) St. Andrew's Society.** Secretary, Robert P. Fairbairn, Milwaukee, Wis., U.S.A.
- MONTREAL Clan MacLennan.** Secretary, George G. Barry, 40 Inspector Street.
- NEWBURGH Burns Club.** Instituted 1890. Secretary and Treasurer, Peter Anderson, Commercial Bank, Newburgh. 36 members.
- NEWCASTLE AND TYNESIDE Burns Club.** Secretary, P. Bell, 7 Holly Avenue, West. 200 members.
- OBAN Burns Club.** Instituted 1889. Secretary, Thomas Smith, Rockbank. 40 members.
- OVERTOWN Burns Club.** Instituted 1870. Secretary, George M'Dougall, Durham Bank Orchard. 23 members.
- TANNAHILL-MACDONALD Club.** Instituted 1874. Secretary, William Berry, 8 Kelvin-side Road, Paisley. 30 members.
- PATERSON (N.J.) Caledonian Club.** Secretary, Archibald M'Call, 131 North Ninth Street, Paterson (N.J.), U.S.A.
- PHILADELPHIA Burns Association.** Secretary, George Goodfellow.
- PHILADELPHIA Caledonian Club.** Instituted 1859. Chieftain, Hugh Tulloch.
- PHILADELPHIA Clan Cameron.** Instituted 1890. Secretary, Geo. R. Stewart.
- PHILADELPHIA Scots Thistle Society.** Instituted 1796. Secretary, Joseph Fergusson.
- PHILADELPHIA St. Andrew's Society.** Instituted 1749. Secretary, Peter Boyd.
- PHILADELPHIA Tam o' Shanter Club.** Instituted 1883. Secretary, Robert Smith.

- PITTSBURGH (Pa.) Waverley Society and Burns Club. Secretary, Robert Thomson, Pittsburgh, Pa., U.S.A.
- POLLOKSHAW'S Burns Club. Instituted 1886. Secretary, James Murray, 5 Cogan Street, Pollokshaws. 60 members.
- PORTOBELLO Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Secretary, Wm. Baird, F.S.A. Scot., Clydesdale Bank. 66 members.
- POSSILPARK Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Secretary, Hugh P. Simpson, 44 Bardowie Street. 70 members.
- PROVIDENCE Clan Cameron. Secretary, James Shaw, 28 Bishop Street, Providence, Rhode Island, U.S.A.
- PROVIDENCE Caledonian Society. Secretary, George Gibb, 408 Chalkstone Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island, U.S.A.
- RENFREW Burns Club. Secretary, Archibald Buchanan, 27 Queen Street, Renfrew.
- SCOTTISH THISTLE Club of Ottawa, Ills. Instituted 1894. Secretary and Treasurer, William E. W. MacKinlay, Post Office Block, Ottawa, Illinois, U.S.A. 60 members.
- SIR WILLIAM WALLACE CAMP Sons of Scotland, Kingston, Ontario, Canada. Recording Secretary, J. R. Massie.
- ST. ANDREW'S Society of Bay County. Instituted 1890. Secretary, G. A. Wilson, Bay City, Mich. 67 members.
- ST. JOHN, N.B., Clan Mackenzie. Secretary, Joseph A. Murdoch, Haymarket Square.
- STOW Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Secretary, James Sanderson, Post Office, Stow. 45 members.
- THAMES (Auckland) Burns Club. Secretary, John Gibb, Gas Works, Thames, Auckland, N.Z.
- WATERBURY (N.H.) Burns Club. Secretary, W. H. Callan, 495 Washington Avenue.
- WEST BAY CITY (Mich.) Clan Fraser. Secretary, John Kennedy, 510 N. Chilson Avenue.
- WOODSTOCK (Ont.) Clan Sutherland. Secretary, C. W. Oliver.
- YONKERS (N.Y.) The Robert Burns Club. Secretary, Kenneth M'Kay, 9 Poplar Street.









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Author

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1898-1900

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